JOHN BULL, FEBRUARY 27, 1926

Vol. XXXIX. No. 1050.

TWOPENCE

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J.B. 27/2/26.

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2,000 Doctors say anyone can grow and keep Abundant Hair.

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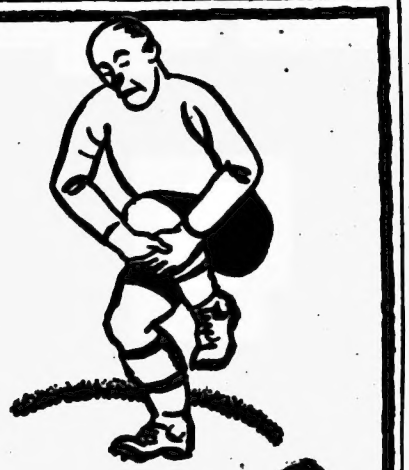

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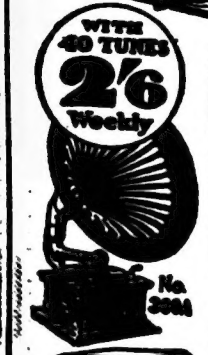

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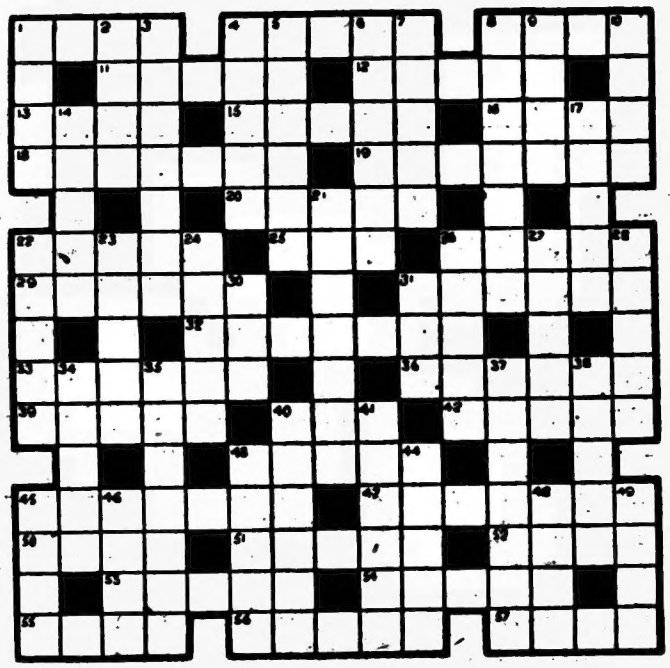

CLUES DOWN

1. Speech impediment.
2. A small bottle.
3. Irregular.
4. One indifferent to pain or pleasure.
5. A flag.
6. A Jewish coin.
7. Mother.
8. A division.
9. Employer.
10. Complete.
14. To gradually diminish.
17. Smallest in size or value
21. Wine harvest.
22. Divided.
23. Danger.
24. A letter of the alphabet
26. Sickness.
27. Name for regimental chaplain.
28. Earnest.
30. Announce.
31. Seated.
34. The same again.
35. A cushioned seat.
37. A suppressed vowel.
38. Young soldier.
40. A small area.
41. To evade.
43. Cast.
44. Substantial.
45. Slender.
46. Character.
48. To carry.
49. A swindle.

ACROSS CLUES.

1. Affection.
4. Sudden twitching.
8. Foam made by waves.
11. Wrathful.
12. Perdition.
13. Heavenly object.
15. Sudden attack.
16. Small hollow place.
18. A Knight-errant.
19. A kind of falcon.
20. To conceal
22. Brown colour.
25. Nothing
26. Small wood.
29. A summary
31. A musical work.
32. Relating to touch.
33. State of lunacy
36. A 42-gallon cask.
39. Cultivated land.
40. Number of years.
42. Transparent.
43. A lock of hair.
45. Introductory chorus in Greek drama.
47. A small vessel.
50. A weaving machine
51. Pertaining to dew.
52. A jot.
53. Garment fold.
54. Airman.
55. Aspect.
56. Undulated.
57. Lowest point of the tide.

The Solution to last week's Cross-word Puzzle will be found on page 41.

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This is the Book that will help you to become more efficient. It contains everything the ambitious man wants to know. It is more like an encyclopædia than a dictionary. Use it constantly in cases of doubt or difficulty, and you will find yourself able to speak well and to write well. The "King's English" Dictionary presents sound knowledge on the proper meanings and the right use of words.

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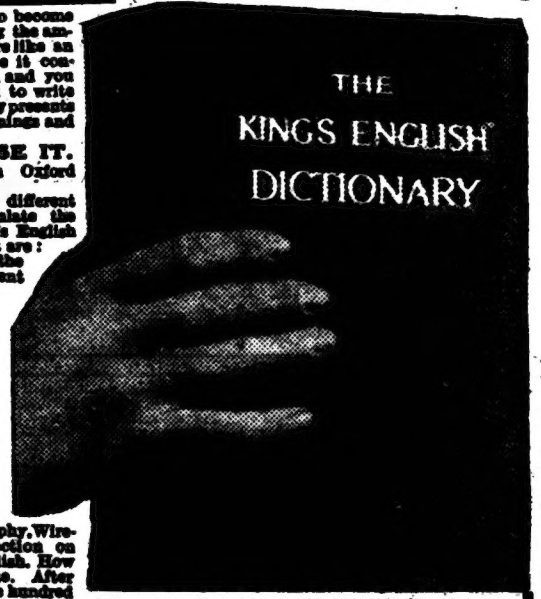

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(*Continued from page 43*)

A. Cooper, 7, Mill Road, Ecclesfield, Sheffield; Indoors—Cuckoo, Till "Spring" Releases;
J. E. Ellison, St. David's Club, Aberystwyth. The Right Way—Coal War—"Cease Fire."
(Entered on "Target" Prize coupon.)
L. Griffith, 1, Crossfield Grove, Woods Moor, Stockport. Old Maid—Any Mate Would Animate.
L. Hackman, 20, Copeland Road, Walthamstow, E; At Sea—"Thanks To The Yanks."
(Entered on "Target" Prize coupon.)
W. L. Harris, Elm Lea, East Street, Littlehampton; Parson's Wife—Sets Example, Not Fashion.
(Entered on "Target" Prize coupon.)
S. Hurst, 98, Edensor Road, Longton. Indoors—"Alice, Where Art Thou?"
G. W. F. Nye, 30, Flodden Road, Camberwell, S.E; Forgetting Her—Size, Ikey Takes Largest.
A. F. Sharman, 131, Ewart Road, Nottingham. Nodding—Willow Tree—Horse Passing.
E. Williams, 29, Benedict Street, Glastonbury, Som; Forgetting Her—Childhood—Auntie, Not Granny.

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W. R. Andrews, 56, Annesbury Av., London, S.W.
W. Armour, 25, Liverstdge Rd., Birkenhead.
G. T. Astbury, 60, Buxton St., Hanley.
Miss A. Baker, "Ardevan," Whaley Bridge.
E. Balmer, 3, Albert Sq., Stockwell, S.W.
J. Barker, Wolverhampton Rd., Bloxwich, Walsall.
R. Barnett, The Forge, Ladbroke, nr. Rugby.
J. Bee, 2, The Row, Apperly Lane, Rawdon.
H. H. Beresford, 5a, Milverton St., Kennington.
J. Bernard, 147a, Ann St., Dundee.
Miss M. Bown, 33, High St., Brecon.
Mrs. F. Bradley, 28, Manvers St., Nottingham.
R. Brown, 34, Graham St., St. Helens.
J. T. Burdett-Sykes, Tutbury, Staffs.
C. Butcher, 52, Everard St., Barry.
L. J. Cahill, 19, West Lea Av., Harrogate.
Tpr. Carter, Life Guards, Regent's Pk. Barracks.
G. Chapman, 21, Parr Rd., East Ham, E.
A. T. Clark, 127, Dorchester Rd., Weymouth.
H. Clark, 13, Villa Rd., Adwick-le-Street.
Mrs. M. Clarkson, 31, Ereeby Rd., Kilburn, N.W.
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H. D. Colson, 1, Vernon Av., Beeston, Notts.
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R. J. Dixon, "Locarno," Geneva Rd., Darlington.
G. E. Evans, 15, Watlington Grove, Sydenham.
T. Fletcher, 23, Calder St., Blackburn.
C. J. Fowler, 11, Stanisford Rd., Wembley.
W. French, Stanway Cott., Willingham, Cambs.
D. W. Fricker, 124, Crewe St., Derby.
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J. D. Goody, 1, Whitworth Rd., Woolwich, S.E.
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A. Grant, Jnr., 14, London Rd., Caterham.
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P. Haley, 13, Skiddaw Av., Maryport.
E. Harris, 7, Stratford Rd., Salisbury.
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(*Continued on page 41.*)

The Shanty-man

flourished in the palmy days of the sailing ship, when the handling of capstan, windlass or sails depended on the lusty arm of the seaman. His duty it was to sing the shanty which kept the hands heaving or hauling in time, while the latter took up the refrain, and the great ships were warped to their berths or headed for the open sea to the strains of 'Away, Rio,' 'Reuben Ranzo,' 'Shenandoah,' 'The Hog-eye Man,' and many another of these curious and attractive airs. Alas! the stately Indiaman and the graceful clipper ship have vanished from the sea, and the Shanty-man sings no more.

20 *for* 11d.
10 *for* 5½d.

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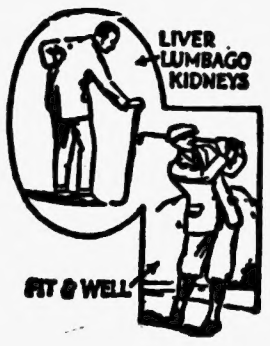
Reg. No. 154011

Player's
WHITE LABEL
NAVY CUT CIGARETTES

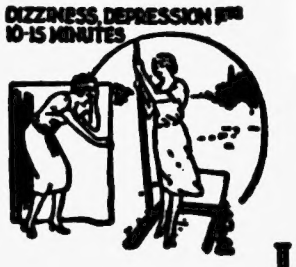
P.W.38

Yeast is life!

Irving's Yeast-Vite Tablets
A Lightning Pick-me-up.



HEADACHE, NEURALGIA ETC IN 5 MINUTES.



THE greatest medical discovery of the century! Pure Yeast and Vitamins—No harmful drugs. The gentle fermentation of the Yeast when in contact with the gastric juices of the stomach causes a stimulating buoyant feeling of extreme vigour. Take a tablet or two and feel fresh and frisky in a few minutes.

IRVING'S *YEAST-VITE* TABLETS will relieve:—

Headache, Neuralgia, etc. ...	in 5 minutes.
Indigestion, Flatulence ...	in 5 to 10 minutes
Biliousness, Dizziness, Depression	in 10 to 15 minutes
Disordered Stomach, Liver, etc.	in 10 to 20 minutes
Influenza Cold, Fever	in 24 hours.

Our Guarantee Obtain a 1/3 bottle from your Chemist. If your health does not improve perceptibly, post us the empty bottle and we will refund your money immediately.

£100 Cash will be paid to anyone proving that the following extracts from unsolicited testimonials are not genuine. We have received over 30,000 letters from satisfied users in less than two years which are open to inspection.

CAUTION.—Avoid rank imitations which have no therapeutic value and are unstamped. All genuine Irving's Yeast-Vite Tablets are always sealed with Government stamps.

24111—Mr. B. S. R. N., C.S., M.M.G.:—Up to the present Yeast-Vite tablets have never failed. I have given them in cases where all other remedies have failed. Many of my patients would not be without them.

24118—Dr. T. V. N.:—I am not guilty of the slightest exaggeration when I tell you that results from Yeast-Vite were simply astonishing. Severe cases of asthenia (General Weakness). Kindly send supplies to the four hospitals mentioned herewith.

24372—The Yeast-Vite tablets were a godsend. I have been in agony for a week, but one dose stopped the pain and I am able to get about again.

26167—I am a Hospital Sister, but owing to my health I am unable to carry on my duties. Yeast-Vite has done me considerable good. I have gained 5 lbs. in a few weeks.

17013—Dr. N. writes: "I am prescribing the tablets regularly. Please send a box to my brother (invoice to me), as I want him to take the treatment."

18224—Dr. P.: "I find the tablets an excellent tonic and would thank you for a further supply to distribute among my patients."

25323—I thought you might be interested in results of my tests. Two influenza cases quickly cured. Tem. 104 brought to normal in 12 hours. Several headache patients—pain disappeared almost instantly.

25334—I have suffered for years with anæmia, nerves and terrible coughs. Thanks to Yeast-Vite, this is the first winter for years that I have not been laid up. I am afraid to be without them.

25338—For 18 years I have suffered terribly with my head and had to give up work. On recommendation I tried Yeast-Vite and am now back at work and never felt better.

22741—I shall feel eternally grateful to you for enabling me to regain my health and I shall never be without Yeast-Vite in the house. I recommended them to six friends last week.

21987—Thanks for your confidential medical advice. The boils have now entirely disappeared.

22103—Kindly send a further supply. I have tried Yeast-Vite amongst certain of my patients, and in several cases they proved quite beneficial. I have great faith in their possibilities.

21007—Suffering with nerves and general run-down conditions, I tried lots of medicines without relief. I tried Yeast-Vite, and can assure you that I feel 100 per cent. better.

20874—I heartily endorse all your claims. Yeast-Vite tablets are marvellous! I can now eat cheese, pickles, pastry or anything I fancy, and am enjoying relief from dietetic slavery.

22373—Nurse A. L.: I was ready to go into hospital for gastric ulcer. The pain nearly drove me mad. Medicine made it worse, but Yeast-Vite stopped the pain in less than 10 minutes! They are perfectly wonderful. I recommend them to everybody!

21113—A matron of the Girls' Training Homes: I have found the tablets efficacious. I have also tested them thoroughly myself, and have been surprised to prove them to be such a real "lightning pick-me-up." I shall always have them by me in future.

20443—I have suffered from indigestion for eight years. The pain at times almost killed me, and I could not eat, sleep, or do anything. After taking only four tablets the pains disappeared, and I have had no discomfort since.

22164—I am already feeling the benefit of Yeast-Vite although there is still some sugar; but I am not so fatigued, and the muscular rheumatism has gone entirely. I am resting better at night.

21932—Mother was so run down, nervous and depressed following the death of father, and an attack of influenza left her in a collapsed state with neuralgia. The effect of the very first box of Yeast-Vite was simply marvellous.

23024—I am now entirely free from boils, the first time in two years.

23097—I am suffering from diabetes, and have been doctoring without relief until I tried Yeast-Vite. I have had only one box and already feel a new woman.

21234—I was miserable, irritable and nervous, but thanks to Yeast-Vite I am better in every way. Please publish this and let the public know how much good they have done me.

19997—I have suffered with stomach trouble for years, but thanks to Yeast-Vite I am entirely cured. I have recommended them to many friends, and they all speak highly of them.

19387—Leading London Hospital (Secretary): After a careful test we find Yeast-Vite as claimed and very satisfactory. We are now quite willing to purchase supplies.

12666—Diocesan for Befriending Girls: I am using them for my girls with great success. One very delicate girl gained 4 lb. in one week. I find them an excellent tonic.

1723—Am pleased to say that three of my friends have benefited as much as I, since I recommended them.

13501—Rev. J. P.: I was led by a fellow-sufferer to try them, and have received considerable benefit.

1001—I think them splendid and will certainly recommend them to all I know.

10366—We develop colds so quickly that the tablets are the only cure we have found.

1123—I am a hospital trained nurse, very anæmic. The tablets have done me a lot of good and improved me some pounds already.

10030—Send by return post as I cannot be without them. I suffer so much with indigestion that they relieve me immediately.

17413—I have spent a small "fortune" on "cures" for my indigestion, biliousness, bad breath and pimples, but after a week's treatment I am already feeling a different man.

1727—I have suffered for years with severe indigestion. Yeast-Vite is the only thing that has ever given me relief.

15673—Being full of wind, heartburn, and acidity, I often had to vomit. I now enjoy my food and life itself. No words of mine can adequately explain the merits of Yeast Vite.

14777—The effect on me has been simply wonderful, both physical and mental.

10782—My sister is so limp without them. I will be thankful to see the tablets arrive.

10706—They have increased my son's weight 8 lb. and improved his nervous system generally.

987—Such a splendid tonic. I shall recommend them on account of the great improvement in my health.

FREE TREATISE

Send postcard for free treatise on Anæmia, Nerves, Skin Blemishes, Constipation, Colds, Insomnia, Rheumatism, Pains, etc. Mention "John Bull."

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CONQUERS

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it acts like a charm—just a gentle application NO Rubbing—and you can almost feel your pain slipping away. VIK-WIK Conquers Pain—there is no ache or pain proof against its healing curative powers—soothing and cooling, it penetrates immediately—healing the aching inflamed tissues—giving quick and lasting relief. Remember VIK-WIK needs no rubbing—it neither burns nor blisters but it conquers Pain. Get your bottle of the Century Old Family Liniment Now.

ALL PAINS

RHEUMATISM CURED

South Tottenham.

Sirs

I have for many years suffered with severe Rheumatism. At times the pain was really agonising. Sleepless nights began to make me feel really ill, and the pain seemed to increase. I noticed your advertisement and purchased a 1/3 bottle. To my astonishment the pain ceased upon the first application, and I spent a restful night, the first for many weeks.

I can honestly say that two 1/3 bottles of Vik-Wik have cured me, when the pounds I have spent upon other preparations had failed. Yours sincerely, (Mrs.) E. DENNIS.

VIK-WIK
THE FAMILY LINIMENT

1/3 & 2/- PER BOTTLE

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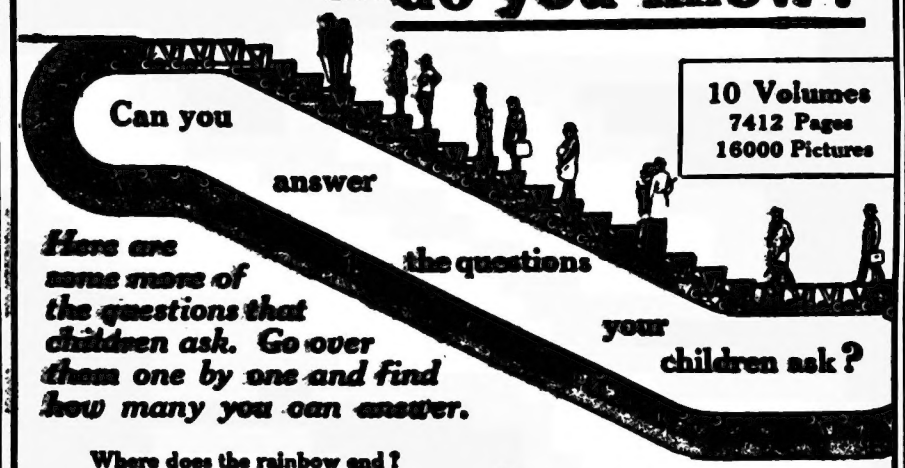

Here are some more of the questions that children ask. Go over them one by one and find how many you can answer.

Where does the rainbow end?
What makes us hungry?
Why do we dream?
Why is the sea never still?
What makes the wind whistle?
Can trees tap a wireless message?
Is snow frozen rain?
Why does a ball bounce?
Why can't we see in the dark?
Why does hair turn grey?
What keeps the stars in place?
Does the sun put out a fire?
What makes us sneeze?
Have fishes any feeling?
How do flies walk on the ceiling?

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Edited by Arthur Mee

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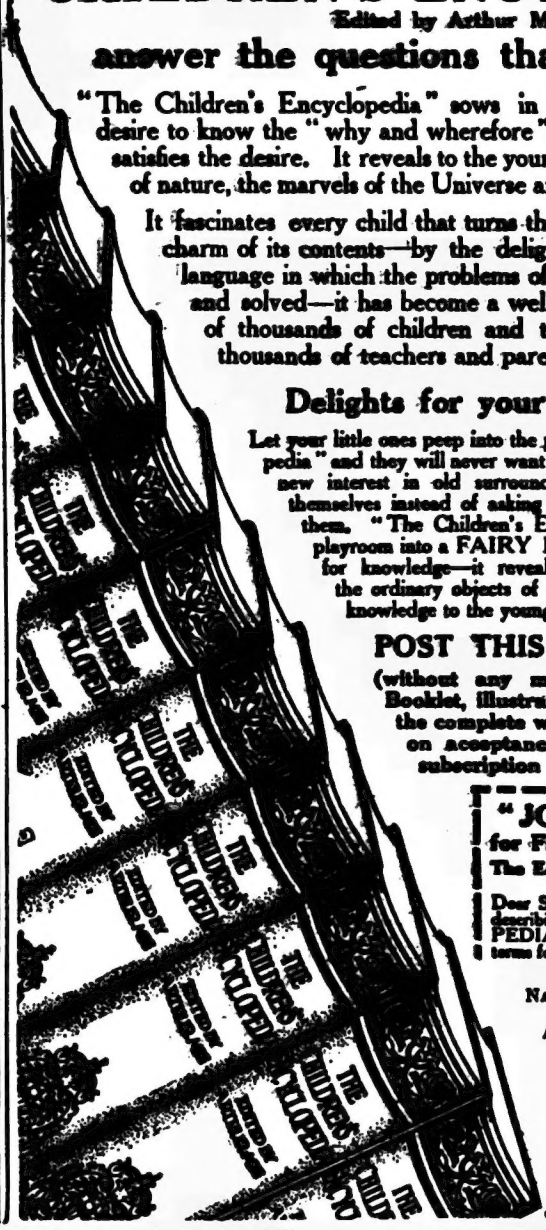
It fascinates every child that turns the pages. By the compelling charm of its contents—by the delightful pictures—by the simple language in which the problems of the child's mind are explained and solved—it has become a well of pure delight for hundreds of thousands of children and the source of inspiration for thousands of teachers and parents.



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Let your little ones peep into the pages of "The Children's Encyclopedia" and they will never want to be idle again. They will find a new interest in old surroundings—they will begin to think for themselves instead of asking their elders to do the thinking for them. "The Children's Encyclopedia" turns the nursery or playroom into a FAIRY PALACE. It develops an appetite for knowledge—it reveals hundreds of hidden miracles in the ordinary objects of everyday life—it brings more than knowledge to the young mind, it brings understanding.

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The March of the Ghosts, by "A Gentleman with a Duster" ... p. 23

The WORLD, *the* FLESH *& the* DEVIL

One Pound in Three.

Mr. Bridgeman says that by economies the Admiralty will get £2,000,000 off last year's estimates, and also cover the new construction programme. That means that but for the cruiser obsession the Admiralty could save the taxpayer £6,000,000.

Cut and Thrust.

Newspaper men have been tickled by the vendetta between the rival Liberal "publicity" departments. If the headquarters Press agent circulated a paragraph, an acid retort from Lloyd George's office would come along within an hour.

To Speak Up.

The other Liberal leaders are not going to leave the platform entirely to Lloyd George. Now that the Liberal land conference is over, we have reason to believe there will be a big speech-making campaign, in which Viscount Grey will figure actively.

A "Class Distinction" Gone.

An innovation of some political importance is the placing of mere Members of the Labour Party executive on the front Opposition bench, hitherto sacred to ex-Ministers. It means readier entry to the "inner ring" of Parliament, and a freer hand in making up Ministries by merit.

Muzzling the Electorate.

The Re-election of Ministers Bill is arousing opposition from all Parties. It is a double-edged weapon and a constitutional mistake. Mr. Baldwin must withdraw it.

An Eye to the Future.

Why did Sir John Simon help along this Bill? The Opposition see a time when Labour and Liberals may be changing in and out of office—so much more comfortably done without a "miniature general election."

Pot Calling Pan.

According to the Premier, the Liberal Land proposals are "cold porridge." Mr. Lloyd George dubs them "hot poultice." If politicians would quit word-slinging and bring common-sense to bear on the problem the land question might be settled.

Robbing Peter.

We are at one with Mr. Lloyd George in his protest against the emigrating of the nation's fittest. Rather than send them to Canada at a cost of £3 to themselves, it would pay us better to give them a bit to remain at home to colonise our own land.

A Shabby Trick.

The "anti-waste" Press has shrieked its loudest against the grant of £200,000 for Civil Service sports grounds. Yet this is an effort to dodge the far greater expense of increased wages long overdue. And a shabby trick it is.

Adjusting the Balance.

Isn't it about time we warned France that we are not disposed to allow her to manipulate the League of Nations to her own ends? Her so-called desire for security is fast becoming aggressively dictatorial. Germany must be given the vacant seat on the Council however France and Poland rave.

A Warning.

Labour's success in the Darlington by-election was due to one reason, and one reason only—the failure of the Government to carry out its election promises. And, unless the Government wakes up, there'll be others.

Too Slow.

Mr. Baldwin informed Captain E. H. Pease, the Conservative candidate for Darlington, that he makes no promise to create a paradise; progress to be sure must be slow—a fallacy of incompetence. Drastic ills call for drastic remedies—and the speedier the better.

Political Moles.

What are the terms of the bargain made between our Government and Italy?—for, take it from us, bargain there has been. Secret diplomacy is ever the cause of international suspicion and strife. Parliament must demand the truth.

Idle Money.

If the proposed withdrawal of the State grants to the Approved Societies under the National Health Insurance Acts implied a crippling of resources, we should oppose it all the way. Since they have a large surplus at their disposal, however, the economy is wise. Money must not lie dormant these days.

Protests Succeed.

The General Workers' Union has convinced Whitehall of the impropriety of forcing young girls to work in isolated canteens. "Work in military canteens," it is officially announced, "shall not be considered generally suitable for unemployed women." Why a Ministry alive to facts ever thought it was remains a mystery.

Piffle.

The *Ministry of Labour Gazette* announces a drop of 2 per cent. in the cost of living during February. With the average level of all necessaries still 73 per cent. above pre-war such drops cut no ice. What's needed is an avalanche.

£1,500 Reward!

WANTED:—A few words on a "Bulletin" Coupon to win this enormous Prize.

See page 43.

Buy! Buy! Buy!

Why English rump steak costs 2s. 8d. per pound in retail shops, when Smithfield figures how it possible to realise a handsome profit at 2s. 4d. or less, is worrying the Food Council. The get-rich-quick method of trading has its stronghold in the retail meat market, as we pointed out long ago.

The Tea Ramp.

Wholesale prices of tea have risen 6d. per pound since August last. Less tea is being produced and more consumed. As usual the poorest pay the piper.

Egg Them On.

One small district of Holland is getting rich on eggs. It produces a hundred million a year. It markets by the ton and the trainload. Any English county could copy the secret—just co-operation and concentration.

Peter's Pence.

The Church Assembly has appointed a committee to prepare plans for the equalisation of clerical incomes. By pooling the 1,121 benefices well over £700 a year, it is thought possible to remove biting poverty from less-favoured parsons. It's one way of ending a scandal.

A Job of Work.

The Elder Dempster Line gives a leg-up to Belfast and Dumbarton in placing orders for two passenger liners and four cargo-boats. £1,000,000 is involved and thousands of it will be spent in wages. It means improved trade all round.

First Again!

Bravo Harland and Wolff!—whose newly built motor-liner, the *Asturias*, is the latest word in efficiency and luxury. Best of all, she's all-British down to the final rivet in her plates and the pianos in her saloons. *Bon voyage!*

Devilry at Porton.

Three years ago we were spending £53,870 2s. 6d. a year on preparing gas warfare. This year experiments will cost £169,700. Hundreds of animals are now tortured. Whole cities may go through the hell later—unless the people wake up.

The Prospect.

The gas "best for suffocation" is called phosgene. Mustard gas is said to "burn the flesh off well." Chloropicrin produces "intense vomiting, disabling the victim until the enemy arrives to kill." Now taxpayers know exactly what they're paying taxes for.

Shoring a Ruin.

We protest emphatically against the curtailment of certain 'bus services in order to keep the trams going. To claim that they are necessary to the welfare of the public is nonsense, since their unpopularity and costliness is self-evident. We repeat, The trams must go!

The WORLD, the FLESH & the DEVIL

Well Merited.

Seventy-five pounds is a lot of money, but not one penny too much in the way of fine and costs to charge Frank Fairweather, a farm manager, of Wallasea, Essex, who was convicted at Southend of cruelty to 300 fowls. Fifty had died from sheer starvation. Neglect so callous calls for stern condemnation.

Worthy of his Hire.

In the Church Assembly it was suggested that the minimum salary for a clergyman should be £400. This is little enough, goodness knows: anything less is an insult. It is all very well to quote the text—"Freely thou hast received, freely give!" but tradesmen have a penchant for payment, and even collars that fasten at the back cost money.

Explanation Needed.

For over nineteen years, at Connah's Quay, an ex-Service drill-sergeant rendered service to the country. Now he has been turned into the street along with his wife, their four children, and his furniture by the Army authorities. The man is without a pension or a job. His family have had to turn to a workhouse for shelter. The action seems harsh and callous and calls for explanation.

Playing with Fire.

Love-thieves there are in great number in Hull and other cities, and Nellie Adkins is one of them. Every night for weeks she broke the heart of a wife by carrying on with a man she knew to be married. It was the old, old story of a man's illicit "baby wife." And in the end the same sad price was paid, the man drowning himself. The straight way is always the best—for men and for women.

Preaching and Practice.

Worry and anxiety are the diseases that promote misery in the world and cause many to despair of life, is the opinion of Dr. F. B. Smith, of Harrogate. The future of their children, the insecurity of employment, and the conditions in many homes make women weak and men to lose hope. If practical Christianity obtained, a solution to many of the world's troubles would be found.

The Brave Shipmite.

Only a boy in years, Samuel Kenny jumped overboard to the rescue of a young shipmate named Stephen Kirby from the steamship *Ingrid* at Port Talbot. Kirby went down before Kenny reached him, and Kenny was only saved by Benjamin Thomas, master of a barge, diving to his rescue in the nick of time. Young Kenny, who hails from the West Ham Children's Home, played the part of a man.

Smart Work.

Detectives Faires and Pike, of Scotland Yard flying squad, deserve praise. They have broken up the gang of pickpockets who made the rush hours at week-ends in Camden Town a misery. It necessitated a fierce struggle in a tramcar before three notorious thieves—Abrahams, Martin and Wooder—were arrested. Honest work-folk can now take their weekly earnings home in peace.

Criminal Advice.

A boy from the Whitechapel Working Boys' Institute was sent to a Middletown miner's family to be employed in a coal pit. A week later he took a shilling which was not his own. When the foster-parents communicated the fact to a London probation officer they received a reply which amazed them. "Give him half-a-crown," they were told, "and put him on the road with his face towards London." Advice likely to ruin the lad, not save him.

The Helping Hand.

Mr. J. G. Gibbons, the enthusiast behind the Wayfarers' Benevolent Association, believes in practical humanity. To reclaim men who have drifted to the roads, "Spring House," a hostel at Heckmondwike, has been opened. The place will give the down-and-outs the amenities of a simple home and eight hours' daily work until a real job can be found. Toc H. is backing up Mr. Gibbons in the movement. It is a truly Christian one.

Vivacious Vicar.

The Rev. George Potter is a parson after our own heart. Living in a converted public-house in a back street of Peckham, he makes a hobby of ventriloquial entertainments for charity and for the amusement of his parishioners. Even a little religion, when seasoned with laughter, will go a very long way.

The Admiralty Way.

In war time Commander Geoffrey Unsworth, D.S.O., D.S.C., R.N.R., got up from a sick bed and located the sunken *Laurentic* after the Admiralty had failed to find the wreck. Some £5,000,000 has been salved and the salvors have been rewarded. But Commander Unsworth has not even had the smell of an Admiralty oil rags, as a reward. The Admiralty must learn to be just.

Service for Sinners.

The Rev. Hugh Chapman not only has the courage of his opinions, but he is able to carry them into effect without outside interference. The Savoy Chapel is not under the jurisdiction of the Church, hence divorced couples can be married within its walls. The Bishop of London is antagonistic but powerless. We hold it a good thing that one London church at least is charitable to human frailty.

Mother's Tears Scorned.

We are not of those who regard petty theft as a sign of inherent depravity in a child, and we contend that the fright given by a police court is sufficient to effect a permanent cure in the majority of cases. Yet a Camberwell girl who took her teacher's money was sent to Princess Mary's Homes at Addlestone, in spite of the pleading and the tears of the mother. Such arbitrary disregard for a parent's feelings borders on persecution.

The Human Machine

Life's Lucky-Bag

by E. R. THOMPSON, M.A.

I OFTEN hear people speak of life as a "lucky-bag." Now, the essence of a lucky-bag is that you put in your hand and drag out something—or nothing.

If you draw out something you may or may not have got something worth having. In any case, you have no control over the result.

That is why I wonder if the people who describe life in these terms really understand what life means, or know how to deal with it.

I think one of the most striking things about life is that we get out of it exactly what we put in.

The man who puts into life grumbles, discontent, frowns and black looks gets these back again. The man who puts in smiles and cheerfulness, honest endeavour and friendliness, finds these, too, handed back to him on all sides.

LIFE is not only not a mere haphazard lucky-bag, it is a concern that is always liable to pay extraordinarily high dividends on investments.

Success is not a glittering prize that falls from heaven into the laps of the favoured few. It is life's dividend on the shares that any man may buy by hard work and serious striving.

To regard life as a lucky-bag is to confess mental and physical laziness, to confess a hope that "something will turn up if we can only hang on long enough."

It may be true enough that "everything comes to him who waits." I don't deny it. I do most certainly assert, however, that it comes a great deal quicker to those who go and get it!

*** *Many of Mr. Thompson's previous articles are now reprinted in book form under the title of "The Human Machine." (2s. 6d., post free 2s. 10d. Mills & Boon, Rupert Street, London, W.)*

Tragic Figures.

The Workers' Educational Association has been joined by the London Teachers' Association in indignation against the "harm being done to the fine texture of the educational fabric." It points out that at the moment we are spending £1,000,000 a day interest on war debts. Whilst in 1924 about £115,000,000 went on armaments, less than half that sum was spent on education. To anyone not war mad the divergence is tragic.

Banning the British.

Though the land simply swarms with undesirable aliens, to prove he is alert the Home Secretary has banned the return of Mrs. Gibson, of Ravenstone, a British-born subject. While serving in the "Waacs" she met and married an American soldier, who has lately deserted her, and though her father guarantees to support the woman and her children, the law persists in regarding her as a destitute alien. The law is indeed a ass.

Meanness Personified.

At Lincoln when a labourer named Collis was run down by a motor-car belonging to Mr. George Woosten, of Leicester, he asked his young neighbour, Cecil Knight, to write and ask for compensation. It was forthcoming, but Knight appropriated the money sent. When the magistrate sentenced the false friend to twelve months' hard labour he spoke strong words. Both these and the fellow's conscience should prick him.

Slaughterhouse Scandal.

J. T. Jones, of Kingston Road, Sketty, makes an appeal to the authorities to remove the existing slaughterhouse at Llandilo. He points out that a right-of-way runs through the slaughterhouse yard, and that children gather to witness the appalling spectacle of pigs being slaughtered in sight of each other, and in full view of the sheep in near-by pens. This is a shocking state of affairs, and we trust will soon be remedied.

Lest We Forget.

Three men sitting in a hut at breakfast near their work at Limestone Quarries at Brigham had the place wrecked over them by the explosion of five sticks of gelignite. John Bell received the full force of the blast in his face and was killed. At Preston Gasworks on the following day four men were burned and injured by the bursting of a piston. It's another tragic reminder that honest work isn't all paid for in coin of the realm.

Youthful Folly Curbed.

The Guardianship of Infants Act, 1925, continues its beneficent sway. Mrs. Allen, of Kingston-on-Thames, objected to her young daughter "marrying into poverty" when the girl wanted to marry Cecil Baldwin, a grocer's assistant, aged nineteen, earning £2 a week. Therefore Eunice May appealed to the magistrates, who upheld the mother's ruling. They have seen enough of married misery through boys and girls rushing into matrimony haphazard.

A Good Man's Legacy.

A bishop must be "given to hospitality" and "not greedy of filthy lucre," says Holy Writ, an injunction believed in to the utmost by the late Dr. J. P. A. Bowers, Suffragan Bishop of Thetford, and his good wife. His house, affectionately termed "The Thetford Arms," entertained all and sundry who came to its ever-open doors, and his silver and gold were mere agents for helping the poor and needy. Then death came, and the widow is left in poverty. Her comfort must be the privilege of the Christian Church to secure.

When Woman Builds.

Six months ago Mrs. Wilson, of Halifax, launched her £30,000 housing scheme and already twenty are occupied. Built in blocks round a semi-circle, each group enjoys two tennis-courts, a bowling-green and croquet lawn. A near-by foundry delivers sea-sand to every house with children. All this for £25 down and the balance guaranteed through the building society, and only £400 per house! What Britain needs is Mrs. Wilson multiplied by hundreds.

Hot Stuff.

Mr. J. T. Mustard, of the London Fields School, says there is no country in Europe that spends more on education than ourselves, which would be something to brag about if it chanced to be true. He is also of opinion that education supply has outrun educational demand. We do not wonder that the London Teachers' Association shouted him down. One further economy we might suggest—the saving of the salary of Mustard.

An Explanation Needed.

A Luton reader, who is a poor widow, has to pay dearly for news of her soldier son. He is at present serving in Mesopotamia, and though he writes regularly, the postal authorities are most irregular in their handling of his letters. On several occasions the mother has been called upon to pay 7½d. excess postage, although dozens of other letters, bearing the same stamps, have been delivered without comment. Perhaps Luton's postmaster can explain this irregularity?

Scandalous Treatment.

A reader who had completed a year's training under the Ministry of Labour at Clacton was sent to a firm at Wimbledon, which refused to employ him. He obtained a position for himself elsewhere, but subsequently resigned his post on hearing from the Ministry that it had obtained employment for him at Balham. When he applied there, however, he was told that the position was filled. The Ministry next sent him to a firm at Fulham, where he was offered 12s. 6d. a week! A chapter of errors, to say the least.

Excitement Hunters.

Youthful recklessness at Leicester has reached terrible limits. Boys of from twelve to fourteen will lie down between the railway lines to let the train run over them, and one has been killed by this trick. Recently the "gang" loosened the cocks of a tank containing six tons of ammonia and nearly succeeded in poisoning a whole neighbourhood. Brought before the magistrates they were "severely cautioned." But why not summon the parents? Those who beget children and fail to bring them up decently should be punished.

No Samaritan.

Labouring under the delusion that the police had at their disposal a fund from which to help the needy, George Thomas Evans, a Sydenham clerk, entered the Brixton station and asked to be advanced his 'bus fare as far as London Bridge, as he had run short of cash. P.C. Tansley snapped out that he was no philanthropist, according to the version of Evans; and when the man pressed to be allowed to see the inspector he was arrested and charged with being drunk and disorderly. The charge was dismissed. We cannot congratulate the constable on his discretion or his humanity.

Belated Legislation.

When Mrs. Grace Roberts, clad in expensive furs, stood in the dock at Monmouth Assizes to receive her sentence of twelve months' hard labour, she was a living witness to the urgent need for more drastic legislation ruling slate clubs. This unprincipled woman had robbed her poorer sisters of at least £775, paid in weekly sevenpences, which instead of saving for them she had used in paying her own gambling debts. This one case—with all the widespread misery it must have wrought—provides the Government with every inducement to swift action.

Vermin Carriers.

Sarah Ann Crosby, sixty-one, a wanderer, was charged at Tower Bridge with obtaining relief when in possession of funds. The point we desire to stress is the callous indifference to public welfare displayed by an attendant at the Poplar casual ward named Peckover. The woman confessed she was verminous, and applied for cleansing facilities. As these were not available, she was given a travelling token to Southwark. We demand a guarantee of the authorities that public vehicles shall not in future be liable to contamination in this way.

Danger for Dancers.

Mrs. Hubert Soppitt, trading as Miss Jenny Robbins, is obviously an unfit person to have charge of a theatrical employment agency. She shipped eight girls to a Madrid cabaret, where they were expected to drink with customers till the early hours of morning. To expose British womanhood to such temptation is either vicious indifference or criminal ineptitude. Robbins deserved to lose her licence, which we hope she will never recover.

Burning Dirt.

We are glad to see that English-speaking authors on the Riviera are fully alive to the menace of filthy books and magazines printed in English, but by foreigners. The authors had a clean-up of such trash which culminated in the Mayor of Villefranche burning a pile of 200 indecent magazines that were to be sold to English and American sailors. The authors have given a lead, and we hope others will follow it up.

Same Old Dodge.

An unfurnished, six-roomed house for 16s. a week sounds good, and an advertisement to this effect attracted a Portsmouth reader, who was vainly hunting for a home. He made due application, and received a typewritten letter calling for a deposit of £1 1s., but, as no definite particulars were given, he thought it better not to part with his money. He was very wise, for our post-bag shows that this fee-snatching dodge is very prevalent.

Film Rights "Reserved."

When he was inviting the public to put up the money for his proposed expedition to Cocos Island, Lieutenant Kealey announced his intention of making a film record of his treasure hunt. "I am more than confident that this film alone will more than repay the costs and commitments in undertaking the enterprise," he declared, and with this assurance many poor people parted with their cash. Now the lieutenant has calmly announced in the Press that subscribers will not share in the film rights! He is asking for trouble.

Second-hand Sharks.

One of the results of home-employment schemes is the gradual formation of a whole army of amateurs. The original home-employment rogues induce many of their clients to buy up a quantity of their worthless printed matter relating to "money-making schemes," pointing out that they can make a good income by reselling the rubbish to others. We issue this warning—as it is only too apparent that some of these second-hand rogues will get themselves into serious trouble if they set out to follow the methods of the professional fee-snatchers.

Bilking Bookies.

Alf. Hampton, of 19, Craven Street, W.C.2, and H. B. Warner and Co., of 75, Charles Street, Sheffield, football accountants, are the latest additions to the "shy brigade," whose ranks are swelling daily. We have received various complaints from readers who have had unsatisfactory dealings with these concerns, and have written numerous letters with no avail. Our last communication to Warner and Co. has been returned, marked "Gone away."

A Shabby Trick.

A London reader was foolish enough to part with a parcel of goods to F. Reeve, wardrobe dealer, of 24, Sewdley Street, Clapton, E.5, without receiving any payment. The man promised to call and settle in a day or two, but up to now he has failed to put in an appearance, and, though we have written to F. Reeve on two occasions, this gentleman remains discreetly silent. Others should be warned to insist upon cash down in such cases, or at least a receipt for the goods.

"JOHN BULL" PAYS
178 MORE INSURANCE BENEFITS
Total now paid, 19,591
(See Page 2)

Problems of Life

Oriental Courtesy

by the Rev. R. J. CAMPBELL, D.D.

I AM paying a visit to a land of perpetual sunshine, the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan.

It is an interesting experience in many ways, not the least being the demeanour of the native inhabitants.

Dr. R. J. Campbell

Taken on the whole, they are a fine race, with qualities of courage and endurance which have often been put to the proof.

That they are desperate fighters we know from the fierce battles in which our Army engaged with them before Lord Kitchener took Khartum and brought the Khalifa's cruel dominion to an end.

To-day peaceful ordered development is taking place under British rule, and the sons of the very desert tribes who fought against us are now enrolled as a well-drilled and smart-looking defence force.

But perhaps it is their dignified and courtly bearing which impresses a visitor most.

You see two sheikhs, in long flowing white robes meeting each other. They touch hands, unclasp, raise the right hand to breast and lips with a swift, graceful motion, and then touch hands again.

I HAVE just been visiting a hospital staffed by English doctors and nurses, but maintained entirely for the benefit of the Sudanese population. Friends of the patients waiting in an ante-room saluted the members of my little party by gently taking hold of our right hands individually, kissing them and laying their foreheads on them. The action was so graceful and natural as to be quite charming.

A tiny mite of a boy, not more than three or four years old, and clad in nothing but his own little black skin, met us in the compound, ran up to us, took my hand in both of his, pressed his little forehead upon it for an instant and then ran away. I felt I should like to pop him into my pocket and bring him home.

WHAT is the matter with our Western civilisation that we have retained so little of the outward courtesy that is so habitual with this primitive folk?

One is ashamed to say that they lose it in proportion as they adopt our ways.

What is the value of it? Are they more kindly than we? No; these are the people whose fathers chopped off hands and feet and tore eyes out at the bidding of a tyrant; and fanaticism—which is never far down in any of them—could quickly render them capable of similar deeds to-day.

The value of such behaviour as I have illustrated is that it ministers to mutual respect.

By practising it you show that you think of people worthy of consideration, and you also indicate that not less is owing to yourself.

A MISSION THAT MUST CLOSE

TWO BOGUS CLERICS UNMASKED

Cadging Evangelistical Association

ONE of the most impudent charity organisations operating to-day is the Northern Evangelistic Association of Aberdeen.

The Northern Evangelistic Association, whose work is confined practically to the locality in which its headquarters are situated, makes a widespread appeal for funds, and many people are foolish enough to send it liberal contributions.

About a year ago we received some very serious complaints about this concern and, after our Special Commissioner had investigated the matter in Aberdeen, we made some very strong comments.

Our charges, in brief, were that the Northern Evangelistic Association was merely an alias for a pair of bogus clerics named Matthews and Penrose: that it was obtaining money unjustifiably from the public, and spending most of it on purposes other than those for which it was subscribed; and that it had amongst its collectors several very shady characters, some going about in clerical attire although they were laymen.

"When rogues fall out"

The Rev. J. R. Penrose was very upset at our criticisms and, adopting a very pious attitude, wrote to us saying that our comments about Pastor Matthews were not true. The pastor had disclaimed all we said when Penrose had questioned him.

Matthews, too, approached us for an apology. We told both these gentlemen that we should be very pleased to see them to hear what they had to say. Appointments were made but never kept,

But they quarrelled among themselves, and Penrose disassociated himself from the Northern Evangelistic Association and started, a month or two ago, a "Mission" of his own. Imbued with all the characteristics of his erstwhile colleague, Matthews, he has been running this on similar lines, and a few days ago was arrested at Glasgow on the charge of obtaining charitable contributions by fraud.

The "Rev." J. R. Penrose

Pastor Matthews of the Northern Evangelistic Association was a witness in the case. Questioned as to why he had allowed Penrose to masquerade as a "reverend" while connected with his association, he stated: "I concluded he was an ordained minister from his clerical garb, and the use of the word 'Rev.'" Matthews denied having "ordained" him.

Despite this denial Pastor Matthews was later compelled to admit that he gave Penrose a certificate in 1920 to the effect that he had been ordained "according to the rites of the City Mission Church."

The City Mission Church, it should be explained, is a dilapidated mission-hall where Matthews holds the religious services connected with the Northern Evangelistic Association. Here it was then that the so-called "ordination" of Penrose took place.

The existence of this certificate is a matter of extreme importance. We should like to know not only the real nature of the association between Matthews and Penrose but also the position of Matthews in this matter.

We say that Matthews is a bogus clergyman, too. He denies it. Yet, in the witness-box during the prosecution of his "reverend" friend, he admitted that he had never been ordained himself, and could not, therefore, rightly ordain anybody else. What is he but an impostor?

Penrose has gone to jail for three months. Matthews, however, remains supreme as the head of the Northern Evangelistic Association. He hopes, naturally enough, that too much publicity will not be given to the prosecution of his old associate. His hopes will be sadly shattered.

During the proceedings against Penrose JOHN BULL figured very much in evidence. Penrose was questioned about some of the scathing criticisms that had appeared about him in this journal, and he was asked whether he had ever tried to get redress.

He stated that he had not, but added that he did not consider that we had attacked his personal character! He admitted further that, although Pastor Matthews had stated that he intended to take an action against us, he had not done so.

"Expenses" Frittered Away

Quite definitely we say that his "Mission" ought to be closed down. Most of the money Matthews receives for its maintenance is frittered away upon himself and "expenses." No proper balance-sheets are issued, and all his collectors are paid substantial sums of money, together with commission, for the work of inducing people to part with money in the sacred name of charity.

People who receive the literature of the Northern Evangelistic Association should now require no further information as to why they should drop the cadging appeals into the waste-paper basket.

A Lovely Game for Mugs

Double Dutch Ramp

WOULD you like a business in London or at any other place in England? Or would you prefer an electric piano? It really doesn't matter how your choice runs, because some gentlemen in Amsterdam are ready to assure you that "your dearest wishes will be fulfilled while you sleep."

We have heard this sort of talk before, and the "ingenious scheme of multiple co-operation," which these Dutch gentlemen put forward is by no means new. "Earn money without money," they say, and this is all you are required to do.

* * *

You must purchase four "claims" from Credit Hollandais, Amsterdam, at 1s. 8d. a claim, and re-sell them at the same price within a fortnight.

The purchasers of your claims have to send them to Credit Hollandais with 6s. 8d., in return for which they will be supplied with four new claims for them to deal with in the same way, and so on, in a never-ending chain.

The "claims" are actually coloured tickets, and as each set is returned to Amsterdam it is replaced by a set of a different colour. Six different colours are employed, and as soon as the last is in circulation the first claim-holder becomes eligible for a prize.

* * *

There appears to be considerable rivalry in Amsterdam in connection with this "scheme."

Le Credit Neerlandais is running the same sort of thing, but instead of speaking of "multiple co-operation," it issues an invitation to "participate in our celebrated American System in Series." The prizes in this case include a "Ford" car and a grand Steinway piano.

This latter concern does not wish to be misunderstood. "Don't think that we will sell you a ticket of lottery or something like that," runs the circular. "Nothing about all that!" No! You only have to purchase you "lucky" tickets!

But, whilst hovering between Credit Hollandais and Credit Neerlandais, why not consider the claims of Mr. F. W. Stapper, also of Amsterdam?"

He is busy inviting people to participate in his "Golden Rain System," and it will save time if we assure our readers that this has nothing to distinguish it from either of the others.

* * *

If they will be advised by us, they will not allow themselves to be tempted by any of these Dutch gentlemen, should they be favoured with their flowery circulars

Hunt the Thimble

A Pottery Puzzle

IN August last year, a Portsmouth reader placed an order for crockery with Albert Brookfield and Son, of St. Paul's Art Pottery, Newport Street, Burslem. He forwarded £16 2s., and in return received three interesting documents.

The first was a letter stating that the goods would be despatched promptly; the second was a receipt for his money; and the third was an imposing-looking certificate, stating that his money would be refunded if the goods proved unsatisfactory.

Whilst the certificate bore the address of Islington Pottery, Longton, Stoke-on-Trent, the other documents were dated from Burslem, and signed on behalf of "The British and Continental Industries, Ltd., Albert Brookfield and Son Branch."

Nearly a month passed by without any delivery being made. The Portsmouth gentleman wrote to Albert Brookfield and Son, at Burslem, and in due course received a letter in which the delay was attributed to the "accumulation of orders caused by the potters' annual holidays."

A fortnight later, further enquiry elicited the fact that one crate of goods had been despatched, and that another two crates would follow.

A Tangled Skein

That was at the end of September, but our reader heard nothing more until October 6, when he received a communication headed "British and Continental Industries, Ltd."

This letter informed him that the company had been forced to cease business "owing to trade depression," and that the matter was now in the hands of liquidators.

Far from satisfied, our reader sought our advice, and we wrote to Albert Brookfield and Son for their explanation of what seemed to us to be a very tangled state of affairs.

This resulted in half the goods being despatched; but having done this the firm settled down into a deep silence once more.

Towards the end of November, our reader was favoured with a letter from The Harvey Pottery Co., of Wharf Street, Longton, offering to supply a crate of crockery at specially reduced terms. This letter, being signed "A. Brookfield," at once aroused suspicion, and our reader forwarded it to us.

An Ominous Fact

Meanwhile, he was still pressing Albert Brookfield for the balance of his order, and in December one of his letters was answered by The St. Paul's Art Pottery, the proprietors of which were given as J. Sadler and Sons, Ltd. Once again he was informed that Albert Brookfield and Son had gone into liquidation.

Reference to Somerset House discloses the fact that Mr. W. E. A. Brookfield, of Spring View Villa, Star Garter Road, Normacot, Longton, is a director or principal shareholder of all the companies concerned.

Exit Alex. Paul

Bogus Salvationist Sentenced

A MAN named Alexander Paul Cohen was sentenced to three months' hard labour at North London Police Court the other day for procuring charitable contributions by false pretences. He was stated to be a Dutch subject, sixty-seven years of age, and his address was given as 22, Philip Street, Hoxton

Alexander Paul Cohen is no stranger to us; he has figured in these pages on more than one occasion, but will be more familiar to our readers as plain "Alexander Paul."

The mean and despicable crime for which he has just been sent to jail was typical of the man. Wearing a Salvation Army hat and tunic, he was going about with a collecting-box, inviting the public to subscribe to "a good cause."

A "Christian" crook

This sanctimonious swindler might still have been thriving on his ill-gotten gains, but for the prompt action of a genuine Salvation Army officer, who, noticing that the collecting box was not an official one, asked him to hand it over for inspection. Cohen hesitated, and the other took the box and asked him to go to the police station.

Cohen said he would certainly do so, but as they were crossing the road he bolted. The officer reported the matter to the police, and Cohen was subsequently arrested.

At one time he was connected with a very shady house-purchasing scheme in the capacity of agent, and he was very earnest in his endeavour to obtain dupes.

Something of the man's hypocrisy may be gathered from the fact that he once wrote to us to say that he had resigned from a certain bogus company because he felt that he "could have nothing to do with fraud"! The truth of the matter was that he had been thrown out.

A life of crime

After certain criticisms had appeared in JOHN BULL, Cohen threatened to take immediate action against us. But the "immediate" action has not yet been taken!

We are informed by Brigadier General Tucker, of the Salvation Army, that Alexander Paul Cohen has been a source of great annoyance to them for many years. A large number of complaints have been received from people whom he has induced to part with money.

Actually, he was dismissed from the Salvation Army some time ago; but he still continued to pose as a member of that highly reputable society.

It is interesting to note that, during the police court proceedings, all the various articles which have appeared in JOHN BULL were handed up to the magistrate.

Cohen should consider himself lucky to have escaped so lightly, and it is to be hoped that the fact that his record is now widely known will lead him to mend his ways in the future.

BRAZEN BUCKET-SHOP RAMP

NEW TRAPS FOR INVESTORS

Faith, Hope and Fifty Per Cent.!

A NUMBER of extremely shady financial sharks are operating from various offices in the City, and their activities are as preposterous as they are extensive.

One of the firms to which we refer is the Aurora Trust, Ltd., of 60-62, Finsbury Pavement, E.C.2. Its literature is extremely impressive, as also is its managing director, a gentleman named Charles Merrick.

Apart from bombarding unsuspecting people with unsolicited circulars, the Aurora Trust, Ltd., employs a number of clever share-peddlers who tour the country in search of victims.

An interesting example of how such salesmen work is illustrated in the case of a Sheffield reader who was a shareholder in a company which had failed. In the middle of last summer, when he rushed home during the lunch-hour, he found a gentleman waiting for him. The visitor was Mr. L. Schoenberg, a very affable member of the staff of the Aurora Trust.

Caught on the "hop"

It should be explained that our Sheffield reader was in a hurry. He had to get back to his office to pay the salaries of something like a thousand men. Mr. Schoenberg was not dismayed—that is how people like him hope to catch clients.

Mr. Schoenberg displayed cheques, application forms, etc., and explained that our reader would not lose his money, as the Aurora Trust, Ltd., was interested in a new concern which had been set up to save the situation brought about by the old.

There is no need to go here into the complicated details of that interview. Suffice it that the Aurora Trust was, according to Schoenberg, merely exchanging old shares for new upon payment of a small sum.

Our reader signed an application form, which he understood was for a certain number of shares in the new company in exchange for his old ones, and Mr. Schoenberg left. Owing to Mr. Schoenberg's unexpected intrusion, our reader had very little time in which to eat his lunch.

The document which mattered

While he was seated at it, however, Mr. Schoenberg returned, and hurriedly explained that our reader had omitted to sign one document. He pointed out that it was only a copy of one already completed, which was required by the Aurora Trust for filing purposes.

Anxious to get back to pay the thousand employees at his firm, our reader foolishly signed the form.

A few days later he was astounded to receive a letter from Mr. Schoenberg stating that "While checking up my accounts I find that you have made application for £19 of the new stock." Our reader, of course, had knowingly done nothing of the kind.

But, as he had handed over to Mr. Schoenberg his actual share certificates in the old company, together with a cheque for £8 (which was part of the generous arrangement by which he was to save his money) he took the matter up with Mr. Merrick.

But apart from a letter which stated that his experience had caused them "considerable surprise," he has since had little satisfaction.

Mr. Wilfrid Greene, K.C., Chairman of the Committee appointed by the Board of Trade to consider what amendments are desirable in the Companies' Acts.

We do not doubt it. This Aurora Trust, Ltd., is very notorious, and its activities are centred around a number of dubious companies.

Another very notorious company is the Shareholders' Association, the secretary of which is a gentleman named A. A. Reich. This concern is also interested in a number of wretched companies, and disposes of its shares in much the same way as the Aurora Trust.

Closely concerned with the Shareholders' Association is a notorious figure in shady finance—a person named Kindell.

Mr. Kindell and the Shareholders' Association have been busy lately in disposing of shares in a concern called Constantine Oilfields, Ltd.

The bogus newspaper

Take the case of one lady. She was "personally canvassed" by a gentleman of the Schoenberg fraternity. She had already lost a considerable amount of money in an American oil swindle, but the touring representative of the Shareholders' Association told her that at last her money was to be saved because an arrangement had been made whereby Constantine Oilfields, Ltd., would "amalgamate its interests" with the other concern.

Much impressive literature was waved in front of her, together with a bogus financial paper—which is one of Kindell's greatest assets in the work of plucking victims—and she was induced to part with a further sum of money in Constantine Oilfields.

We specially warn the public against the Shareholders' Association in connection with a concern called the Limoro-Kano Tin Company.

A Wembley reader was recently paid a visit by a gentleman of the Schoenberg type, and is to-day, in consequence, confronted with a very serious problem. "As a bonus to shareholders," he was told, "we are selling a limited number of shares at 1s. 6d., a present of ninepence on a share, the ordinary price being 2s. 3d."

The Wembley reader bought 7,500 for £562 10s., and, about a week later, another 1,500 for £112 10s. Then he sat down to wait for the tremendous profits to be earned on these Limoro-Kano Tin shares.

A few days later Mr. Reich, the secretary of the Shareholders' Association, called upon him personally, and stated that the Stock Exchange Committee had agreed to put the Limoro-Kano Tin shares on the market at 3s. a share, and suggested that our Wembley reader should take a block of 10,000 for £1,000.

Reich—and riches

He further pointed out that these shares, together with a few more which were being taken up, would form the basis of the shares for sale on the Stock Exchange, which, at 3s. a time, would return a handsome profit for the buyer.

Happily our Wembley reader had no more cash. But he passed over some valuable securities for sale. Then a friend made enquiries about this "special offer to shareholders," and the information obtained did not in any way coincide with the statements made by Mr. Reich.

The Wembley gentleman thereupon demanded his securities back, together with the value of the shares. He then received a call from a representative of the Shareholders' Association who seems to have pacified him for the present. How long his complaisance will last remains to be seen.

One of the inducements of the Shareholders' Association in its exploits is a bogus financial paper called the *Shareholder*, to which we recently directed attention. A reader wrote to the Shareholders' Association about our comments, and got quite an illuminating reply from Mr. Reich.

"To be quite candid we may state that we have no concern with, or interest in, the so-called criticisms of that unveracious paper JOHN BULL, which so far as they relate to the *Shareholder* and to the companies in which we are interested, are absolutely unworthy of consideration," wrote Mr. Reich.

The reason why

"Your suggestion that JOHN BULL should be prosecuted for libel in reference to the article in question is all right in its way, but such an action would take a very long time to be tried, and we do not consider JOHN BULL worth powder and shot."

We thank Mr. Reich very much for these remarks. But considering that JOHN BULL is criticising, and criticising very plainly, some very underhanded and unscrupulous financial trickery, one would have expected far different language than that to which we have referred above from Kindell, Reich and Co., if they were anything like the honest men they profess themselves to be.

WICKED MOTOR SCANDAL

SHAMEFUL TRADE TRICKS

A Queer Black List

THE public may recall a brief report which recently appeared in the general Press relating to the trial before Mr. Justice Talbot, at Devon Assizes, of an official of the Motor Trade Association.

This gentleman was Mr. Percy Denyer, "Stop List superintendent" of the association, and he was charged by Mr. Harry Read, a motor-dealer of Honiton, with demanding money with menaces and without reasonable or probable cause.

Denyer had written to Read, threatening to place his name upon the "Stop List" unless he paid £250 to the association's indemnity fund—that is to say, his name would be published in motor-trade journals as a man who was known to have offered goods for sale at a price below that protected by the association.

Mr. Justice Talbot observed that, whilst the association had an undoubted right to place Read on its "Stop List," no one had any right to demand money as the price of abstaining from inflicting unpleasant consequences. Denyer was found guilty and received the formal sentence of one day's imprisonment.

Now, the general public is not aware that behind this case lies a very grave scandal.

The "Star Chamber"

Mr. Read is only one of a very large number of dealers who have been deliberately trapped into breaking one or other of the rules of the Motor Trade Association.

In the majority of cases, those who fall into the trap are forced to pay a large sum of money to the Association, in addition to meeting the cost of an advertisement in *Motor Commerce* in which they undertake to do in future exactly what the Association tells them.

The "fines" are anything up to £1,000, and may even exceed that amount. If they refuse to pay, their names are included in a "Stop List," published in every issue of *Motor Commerce*.

The bulk of the motor manufacturers in the country are members of the M.T.A. and dare not supply the offending trader. If they do, they too may come under the ban of this self-appointed "Star Chamber."

In Mr. Read, however, the M.T.A. encountered more than they bargained for.

A spy superintendent

Instead of being intimidated into submission, Mr. Read went straight to the police. Enquiries disclosed the fact that the gentleman who had been so "interested" in the proposed purchase of a "Singer" car was *actually the "Stop List" superintendent of the Motor Trade Association.*

Could there be anything more shabby than such back-door methods?

The scandal is that the Motor Trade Association has resorted to this despicable trickery on more than one occasion. We have ample evidence in our possession now to show how trader after trader has been tricked by an association whose ostensible duty is to "protect" them.

There is one case in which the association set a deliberate trap for Messrs. R. M. Vivian & Co., of Spenser Street, Victoria. It demanded £100 from this firm under threat of publishing its name in the "Stop List" for having offered to sell a Rover car at less than protected price to a lady named Miss Fewkes.

This threat was made all the worse by the fact that Miss Fewkes was found to have been employed by the association with the fixed intention of entrapping the traders.

We appealed to the Motor Trade Association members to insist on a searching enquiry into the matter, but, whether this appeal was ever heeded or not, the Motor Trade Association has shown no inclination to change its methods.

Messrs. F. C. Poulton & Co., of 9, Little Portland Street, W.1, were cornered by the Motor Trade Association in exactly the same way over the offer for sale of a "Swift" car at a price varying from that protected by the association.

In this instance, however, £150 was demanded as the price of its silence, and the company was further called upon to sign a declaration to the effect that it would not offend again.

This declaration was to be inserted in the pages of *Motor Commerce* at a cost of £7, which F. C. Poulton and Co. were also called upon to pay!

Such extortion, as in the case of R. M. Vivian and Co., was made all the more despicable by the fact that here, again, the Motor Trade Association had employed Miss Fewkes for the purpose of tripping up the traders.

It was by posing as a prospective purchaser that she contrived to draw the "offer" which was subsequently used as an excuse for the association's exorbitant demands.

Bordering on blackmail

This very engaging lady is evidently kept exceptionally busy by the Motor Trade Association, as on one occasion she accompanied Mr. P. Ingram Denyer when he was endeavouring to "rope in" Mr. Read at Honiton.

Nothing can justify the practice of such methods. To adopt the "Stop List" as a form of commercial terrorism would appear to border upon blackmail, and to secure victims by downright trickery is a very serious offence indeed.

Bullion for the Million

A Share-peddling Campaign

SEVERAL people are enquiring about a concern called Bullion Mines, Limited, which claims to have for its object the making of fortunes for all who get in touch with the company.

Bullion Mines, Limited, hails from Western Australia, and does not appear to have had a very profitable career. It is a concern formed to accomplish the reconstruction of various other companies which eventually ended disastrously for their clients.

* * *

There is an active campaign on foot to sell shares in the Bullion Mines, Limited, to people residing not in Australia but in England. Why, if the shares are as valuable as they are made out to be, is it necessary to hawk them about this country?

The fact remains that a concern called T. W. Webb and Co., Ltd., of Moorgate Street Buildings, E.C.2, has been for some time trying to induce people to invest money in Bullion Mines.

* * *

Webb and Co. do not restrict their activities to circularising would-be clients through the post, but have also resorted to the plan of sending "personal representatives" up and down the country to explain to clients the advantages of taking up this gilt-edged, copper-bottomed stock.

The circulars of the Bullion Mines proposition, and the representatives, do not tell you one thing—that is, that the Bullion Mines, Limited, is, as we have already said, a reconstruction of various dud Australian concerns.

Another point about the project, and one which the public should bear in mind, is that the company is registered abroad, and, therefore, does not have to comply with the restrictions of the Companies Act.

Moreover, its mining activities do not appear to be carried out in Western Australia, as latterly the company is alleged to have been concentrating upon certain golden possibilities in South Africa.

The project, in short—arising as it does from unsuccessful schemes of the past—is far too vague to impress anyone who possesses any knowledge of the intricacies of finance.

* * *

We, therefore, strongly advise all readers who receive circulars from Webb and Company, or who are favoured with a call from any of this concern's personal representatives, to give them a wide berth.

Our readers may rely upon one point—if the shares of this Western Australian Mines Company were of any practical value, they would be snapped up by the eager financiers of that great Dominion.

Don Juan Up to Date

Many Women Victims

A FEW weeks ago a gentleman named George Alfred Thompson, of 38, Ravenscourt Gardens, London, W., was summoned for assault by Clarence Glanville, a wireless engineer, of Southfields.

It appears that Mr. Thompson had administered a severe thrashing to Glanville because the latter, a married man, was paying undesirable attention to Thompson's daughter.

After the case against him had been dismissed, Mr. Thompson called upon us with a very distressing tale. His daughter had been lured away by Glanville, who has just been arrested in connection with the theft of wireless parts and apparatus.

On looking into the affairs of Clarence Jackson Glanville, we find that his record is an astounding one, and that the twenty-year-old daughter of Mr. Thompson is by no means the first victim of his fascinating, but deadly, lure.

A terrible crime

This unprincipled rogue was first married at Fulham Register Office in 1905. He was touring the music-halls at that time with a wireless act, known as "Amphere and Electra," in which his wife joined.

In 1912 his wife divorced him on the grounds that he had been cruel and unfaithful to her. At the hearing of the case a young girl of sixteen testified to having been seduced by Glanville.

Three years later he again married. For a time he lived with his wife at her father's house at Harlesden. His business was much of a mystery, but he borrowed over £100 from his father-in-law on various pretexts, and also persuaded him to back his signature on a promissory note for £30.

He promised to repay the money at £5 a month, but beyond the first instalment he has never paid a penny.

Subsequently his father-in-law was served with a writ, and to his shame and horror the brokers came in. This was the last straw, and Glanville's wife, who was far from well through his neglect and ill-treatment, ordered him out of the house.

A good bargain

He left in March, 1925, and his unfortunate father-in-law was forced to pay £53 to get rid of the brokers. Considering that he had practically kept Glanville for nine years, he was well rid of him.

It was then that Glanville commenced paying his attentions to Miss Thompson, and only his sudden arrest has saved her from untold misery.

Glanville has gone to jail for six months for wireless frauds, where he will have ample opportunity of thinking hard and labouring hard. But we cannot expect much repentance from a scoundrel of fifty-one, who set out to ruin a girl of twenty, and in sympathising with Mr. Thompson in his ordeal, we are sure our readers will join with us.

Muzzling the Macs

Extraordinary Careers of Crime

OUR readers need no introduction to James William MacCraig, the young Tasmanian cattle-dealer, whose acrobatic ability is second to none in the world of jewel-robbers.

"Lucky Jim" MacCraig, cleverest of cat burglars, most entertaining of men-about-town, has been convicted as an incorrigible rogue, and for nine months will be His Majesty's guest.

Although apprehended on two occasions, he put up the most wonderful defence of drunkenness in the first case, and secured an acquittal; and in the second, although sentenced to three years' penal servitude, appealed successfully to a higher tribunal on technical grounds.

But he was not at liberty for long, and at the first opportunity he was charged as a suspect.

Amazing record

Thus comes a break in a remarkable career, which includes successful periods as a jockey, a "stunt" film actor, and a member of a gang of "cat" burglars in America.

He has escaped from prison on at least one occasion, and has been an inmate of Sing Sing. Since his arrival in this country he has been responsible for the theft of thousands of pounds' worth of jewellery.

Over a year ago JOHN BULL revealed to its readers the amazing circumstances of the theft of the world-renowned Wernher jewels from Lady Ludlow's home, Bath House, and told for the first time of MacCraig's part.

We told of the return of the jewels after a big reward had been offered, and of the police knowledge of the negotiations preceding the return.

We told, too, of MacCraig's association with that degenerate young member of a highly connected family, William Macartney, the young underwriter friend of William Cooper Hobbs, of Mr. "A." fame.

Macartney was sent to prison the day after MacCraig for attempting to enter a jeweller's shop for the purpose of theft.

Actually he dashed up to a shop in Albemarle Street, broke a window with a hammer, and was about to snatch at £17,000 worth of jewellery when passers-by dashed up and held him till the arrival of the police.

A sensible course

He has gone to prison for nine months—a merciful first conviction, owing partly to his excellent war record, which reads more like fiction than fact, and partly to a tribute paid by a Scotland Yard officer, who told the Recorder of London that although "he has also been seen with convicted persons, there is no reason to believe that he has been engaged in crime."

Young Macartney (for he is only twenty-seven now) may think himself lucky. If he has any sense, he will steer clear of such people as "Jimmy" MacCraig and his gang when he comes out.

THE GREAT "TEST" TRICK

ARTFUL ALFRED APPLESTONE

A Shark's Shameful Shift

A MONEYLENDER of exceptionally grasping proclivities operates from 132, Newington Causeway, London, S.E. His name is Alfred Applestone, and from time to time he has advertised his willingness to advance money to people in need of immediate funds.

He seems to have obtained a good many clients, most of whom have ample cause to regret their folly in answering his advertisements.

He usually charges an "investigation fee," and in cases where he has actually advanced money, he has been known to charge a most exorbitant rate of interest. But his activities are much wider and more shady than that.

Shylock's new move

Applestone would appear to be very busy working what may be termed the "test loan" ramp.

This is nothing more than a flagrant piece of humbug. In operation it is as follows:

A person applying for a loan is sometimes informed that a small amount will be advanced at first as a "test loan," and as soon as this is repaid, the full amount desired will be forthcoming.

The client, naturally enough, repays the "test" money as early as possible, together with the high rate of interest called for, simply in the hope of securing the full advance promised.

Here, however, he is doomed to disappointment, for the moneylender artfully contrives to wriggle out of his undertaking.

As a glaring example of this trickery, as practised by Mr. Alfred Applestone, let us consider a specific case—that of a Chelmsford reader. This gentleman, being in need of ready money, wrote to Applestone in December last for a loan of £200.

Mr. Applestone explained that he could have this amount at 10 per cent., provided he fulfilled the condition of a "test loan" of £20 at 100 per cent.

Our reader agreed, and Applestone advanced the £20. After three weeks, the client decided to pay back the £20 plus £20 interest, in order to obtain the £200 which he urgently needed.

Judge Cluer, who knows how to deal with moneylenders

This he did, but as soon as Applestone's fingers had closed upon the money he began to make all sorts of excuses, and, in the end, refused to lend his victim a penny!

When our Special Commissioner was in Swansea recently, he was able to investigate the case of a local gentleman who had had the misfortune to be drawn into the toils of this grasping Shylock.

Having answered an advertisement in the ordinary way, this gentleman in due course received a brief note from Applestone asking him to forward £5 5s., on receipt of which a representative would be instructed to call upon him.

Later on, as he had not complied with this request, he was favoured with another letter from Applestone, urging him to do so quickly or he would not be able to see the representative, who was going to Ireland!

Eventually, however, the representative, Mr. Arthur Lewis, got into touch with the gentleman at Swansea and agreed to fix him up with a loan.

But here again the "test loan" formality was suggested, and the unsuspecting victim paid over £50 for £25 in the belief that by so doing he would qualify for the larger loan.

Of course the sequel is the same. The client is still waiting for satisfaction, and it is most unlikely that he will ever get anything out of Alfred Applestone.

As a matter of fact, these two cases we have cited are by no means isolated ones.

Judge's sarcasm

It is certainly time that a stop was put to such a grasping, blood-sucking career. It is not so very long ago that Applestone appeared at Southwark County Court, sued by one of his victims who had sufficient pluck to face the glare of publicity in order to bring him to book.

It was then shown that the moneylender was charging interest at the rate of 500 per cent.

The judge held that this interest was harsh and unconscionable, and delivered himself of some very cutting comments with regard to Applestone's methods. "When we hear these stories," he remarked ironically, "it is remarkable how poor moneylenders live."

Without being in any way ironical, we can say that it is not only remarkable, but altogether scandalous, that such shameful sharks should be able to thrive by practising their cruel methods unchecked.

Dying Woman Summoned

Unjustifiable Action

A CASE in which the National Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Children has acted in an over-zealous and unjustifiable manner has been brought to our notice from Accrington.

Knowing the extent of the good work performed by this reputable society we are all the more pained to learn that in this instance it has exhibited a sad lack of humanity.

A little while back the N.S.P.C.C. issued summonses against a labourer named Henry Dewhurst, and his wife, for unlawfully neglecting their four children, whose ages ranged from eighteen months to nine years.

* * *

The action was adjourned, however, on account of the serious condition of the mother's health, and the unfortunate woman died on the day following that on which she should have appeared to answer the charges preferred against her.

So the bereaved husband had to take his stand alone, for, in spite of the terrible tragedy which had overtaken him, the N.S.P.C.C. insisted on proceeding with the case.

* * *

An inspector of the society stated that he had visited the Dewhurst home, which consisted of a single room, and had found it to be in a terrible condition. The children, he said, were poorly clad and suffering from sores.

This inspector's statement was apparently the sole ground on which the society based its charges, and it is a significant fact that it was not in any way borne out by the statements of Dr. Brooks, who was called to give evidence.

According to the medical man, all the children were well nourished and the house clean.

He admitted that there was only one bedstead, on which the mother and two children slept, whilst a couch served as a bed for the other two children. The father, he pointed out, was forced to sleep in a chair.

Replying to a question from the Bench, Dr. Brooks gave his assurance that much of the children's condition was undoubtedly due to the extreme poverty in which the Dewhursts lived. Mr. Dewhurst had suffered a good deal and had also been out of employment.

Nevertheless, this unfortunate man was given no consideration, but was sentenced to three months' imprisonment. Surely this was a case where kindness and help were needed, rather than punishment?

* * *

The fact that the mother had died showed that she was not in a fit state to give her children proper attention, even if the family had not been overwhelmed by poverty as it was.

The N.S.P.C.C. would appear to have been sadly misguided, and we trust that there will be no repetition of such unsympathetic treatment.

FLAGRANT STAMP SWIZZLE

A BONUS BUBBLE BURST

Perry Peters Out

SOME little time back we inserted a paragraph in these columns warning small shopkeepers to hesitate before committing themselves with regard to a "trading stamp" scheme which might be brought to their notice by the National Bonus Company.

Complaints rolled in from small shopkeepers who had had unsatisfactory dealings with the National Bonus Company, and we found it necessary to issue a stronger warning.

Now has come the final result of our criticisms—the collapse of the National Bonus Company—and a record of the affairs of this precious concern provides an interesting illustration of the manner in which the public may be duped by these so-called "bonus" schemes.

The wonderful scheme

The headquarters of Mr. Perry's concern were at 30, Anlaby Road, Teddington, and he was assisted in its management by his son, Harold Thomas Perry.

Briefly, the scheme was as follows: Shopkeepers were to issue coupons to their customers for every 3d. spent. Booklets were provided with 480 spaces, and as soon as customers had filled their booklets they were to be entitled to 3s. worth of goods.

The National Bonus Company undertook to supply all advertising matter free of cost, while the coupons were sold to shopkeepers at 1,056 for 8s. 6d. and 2,112 for 16s. It further undertook to redeem all full booklets of coupons when returned by the shopkeeper.

Shopkeepers suffer

As a matter of fact, it carried out all its undertakings with the exception of the most important one of all—that is, the last named. When it came to redeeming the full booklets of coupons, the National Bonus Company was overcome with reluctance to pay up.

It was, of course, the shopkeepers who paid. They fulfilled their obligation to their customers and supplied the free goods to the value of 3s. as stipulated; but they could get no satisfaction whatever from the National Bonus Company, and not one penny of their 3s. have they seen.

The extent to which small shopkeepers have been defrauded is shown by the fact that a statement of the company's affairs shows 200 unsecured creditors for £1,006, with assets estimated to produce about £25.

And what has Harold Perry to say about it? He has had the audacity to attribute the "failure" of the National Bonus Company to "a criticism appearing in a weekly journal of certain of the company's transactions."

We have no doubt as to the identity of the "weekly journal," nor have we any doubt that the article in question explains why the business of the company "practically ceased." But we could give a variety of very good reasons for the failure of this venture.

In the first place, the concern was launched on the slender capital of £120. That money was borrowed, and most of it is still owing!

In the second place, the affairs of the National Bonus Company were managed in a very slipshod manner. No record of the sales of coupons was kept, so it was impossible to estimate the extent of its liabilities.

It is doubtful if Perry and Son ever intended to run the National Bonus Company as a straight concern, for, at a time when they should have been trying to pull the company round, they were following very different occupations.

A big come-down

They were, in fact, selling tickets in a football lottery, together with racing "naps." Perry senior printed the slips at home, while Perry junior hawked them in the streets. The latter was arrested when thus engaged and both father and son appeared at Feltham Police Court and were fined 40s.

The Perrys are very small fry locally, but they have certainly made a big noise in recent months. The police have been inundated with complaints.

Harrison's Heartless Hoax

Information for the Police

IF Mr. Percy Swinford Harrison, of Kildare Terrace, W.—who runs a shady concern called British Distributors at Savoy Street, Strand—wants to avoid getting into very serious trouble he had better mend his ways at once.

He has been very busy extracting money from people as "security" against goods, but, as most of his clients who have paid money to him have found it extremely difficult to get the goods, he has therefore obtained their money in a very unsatisfactory manner.

Since our recent comments appeared we have received a number of letters from other readers who have been induced to hand over money to Harrison. Most of them have done so because they believed that he controlled the distributing rights of two patent commodities known as "Kleenoff" and "Scourine."

An unwitting reflection

The owners of both these articles have written to us to point out that, in commenting upon the activities of Mr. Harrison, we have unwittingly cast a reflection upon them.

We therefore wish to make it quite clear that we had no wish to injure the value of either "Kleenoff" or "Scourine," the names of which it now appears were wrongly used by Harrison.

Harrison does not control, nor has he ever controlled, the distribution or sales of either of these articles.

"Kleenoff" is owned by Messrs. Bale and Church, Ltd., of St. Mary-at-Hill, London, E.C.3, while "Scourine" is the property of "Poli-Varn, Ltd.," St. John's Hill Grove, Clapham, S.W.—both firms of the highest repute.

Lying statements

Harrison had no right whatever even to suggest that he "controlled" these goods, and as a matter of fact he merely ordered small consignments of them from the respective firms, to whom, indeed, he still owes money.

We therefore sympathise with Messrs. Poli-Varn, Ltd., and Messrs. Bale and Church, Ltd., over the grossly improper manner in which their names have been used by the enterprising Harrison.

But that does not end the matter. In extracting money from people who were to travel, for Harrison, in these and other commodities, he deliberately stated—and there are several witnesses who can bear this out—that he possessed controlling powers which, in fact, he did not.

Impressed by his misleading statements, people were induced to pay sums of money to him.

Apart from complaints received by us from people who have paid money to Harrison, in return for which they have received nothing, we are in possession of the information that a number of complaints have been received by the police at Bow Street. So far nothing has been done.

We can, to a point, understand this—the police apparently do not know that Mr. Harrison has been lying when he said that he controlled the distribution of "Kleenoff" and "Scourine."

Now we have proved this to be the case, and the police should find no difficulty in obtaining all the further information they require.

We hope that the authorities will take some steps to prevent Harrison from obtaining further dupes.

Barefaced bunkum

He has already been convicted for improperly trading, under the Business Names Act. But it seems a scandal that a man can go on, by the aid of impressive literature, inducing victims to part with money in such an impudent and barefaced fashion.

We hope that, after what we have disclosed, his misleading advertisements and printed matter will be severely ignored by people on the look out for remunerative positions.

Blackmail Most Foul

A Grave Public Danger

SOME very sinister facts lie behind the conviction at the Old Bailey a few days ago of a young man named Augustus Cousins. These we now reveal, simply in the public interest, and in the hope that the Home Secretary will intervene and devote his attention to a very grave problem without further delay.

Augustus Cousins was a member of the growing gang of male blackmailers who importune men, charge them with terrible offences and, relying upon the fear of publicity which their victims generally show, extract money from them with impunity.

There are thousands of rascals of the Cousins type at work to-day, and although the police are doing their best to curb their activities, the law is sadly in need of reform.

Cousins accosted several men and, followed by detectives, was arrested outside a very notorious meeting-place for such blackguards at Victoria. The evidence against him was both ghastly and unprintable.

He was sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment by Sir Ernest Wild, who observed that defendants in such cases did not generally know that, under a new Act of Parliament, they could be flogged.

The only deterrent

"That," the judge added, "is the only method likely to be efficacious with blackguards convicted of such crimes."

This is only too true, and if we could convey to the public one-tenth of the details in our possession concerning the ghoulish work of men like Cousins, we are certain that every decent-minded man and woman in the community would be of the same opinion.

A few days ago, a man named Brand, of Cambridge Street, Pimlico, emulated Cousins in his nefarious business, and he has also been sent to jail.

But the public remain unaware o the astounding extent of such crimes owing to the unwholesome details associated with them.

An awful menace

When we say that no fewer than forty similar cases have been brought before the magistrate at Westminster Police Court within the last few weeks, it will be seen that the evil we are exposing is a very real one indeed.

In the West End of London there are several haunts frequented almost entirely by members of this degraded gang, but, through lack of funds, the police are unable to pursue adequate investigations.

If the Treasury would only open its purse a little, it is certain that wholesale arrests would very quickly ensue.

We ourselves have compiled a special dossier of information, which we have despatched to the Home Secretary in the hope that he will take practical steps to end what may be termed one of the worst menaces of modern times.

The Acrobat With the Axe

by LORD GORELL, C.B.E.

LORD COLWYN is busy cutting down the Education Board's estimate. The Government throws dust in the eyes of the people by issuing and withdrawing circulars. But the public will never sanction an "economy" that will militate against the future welfare of the children

REALLY Lord Eustace Percy is very much to be pitied. If there is one subject more than another on which it could normally be expected that the public would remain satisfactorily supine it is an official circular addressed to local education authorities.

Yet, notwithstanding that, for the last two months the Press, whose editors are the best judges in the world of what is interesting the public, their readers, has been giving column after column to what on the face of it sounds dry-as-dust—namely, Education Circular 1371.

Why is this? Why have people, of all schools of political thought and in every part of the country, been writing and speaking about this particular document and—and this is the significant part—getting their views published in the Press?

In the first place, an enormous number of average men and women, in addition to being voters, are also parents, fond of their children and ambitious for their future. These parents, twenty-five, thirty, or thirty-five years ago, had a certain amount of schooling, and, when they reflect upon their own lives, must often think to themselves, "If only I'd had a bit more!"

The parents' natural desire

This leads them to want for their children what they missed themselves: they want the next generation to have rather a better chance, to go out into the world better equipped in knowledge and training than they were at the same age.

This is the normal, natural wish and hope of every decent parent, and it follows from it that, unless this natural wish is to be frustrated, our educational system can never stand still. It must always be in process of development.

Consequently, even so dull a thing as an official administrative circular, if it contains in it a definite pronouncement that the Government of the day has resolved to slow up and even reverse this process, has been greeted with a veritable storm of protest and dismay.

But there is more to it than that. Governments do from time to time, as everyone knows, come to foolish decisions: there is nothing new in that. "The people of this country," says a well-known observer of public affairs, "have always been wiser than their rulers." The public know that and are usually content quietly to act upon it.

What has really given rise to so much indignation, over and above dislike of the policy itself, is the fact that it has been arrived at suddenly, without the slightest warning, without any consultation whatever with the interests affected, and completely at variance with all that the public had been led by the Government to expect from it.

Education's dead hand

It was noteworthy that at the last General Election all three Parties put educational progress in the forefront of their election manifestoes. Those of us who have long held that education was too vital a national necessity to be the shuttlecock of politics rejoiced; whatever Party came in it seemed obvious progress would be maintained.

The Conservatives were elected, and for nearly a year Lord Eustace Percy spoke up and down the country continually on the need for progress and the desirability of planning ahead schemes for three or even five years: continuity was, he said, and we all agreed, the great thing to be aimed at.

Then in the summer the Chancellor of the Exchequer, usually the ogre against whose pressure the Board of Education has to struggle, confirmed the Government's pledges by saying publicly that there must be economy, but not in education; this nation could not afford economies in education and the Government had no intention of economising in education.

Following on all this, at the beginning of December, Lord Eustace Percy issues a circular announcing the decision to change the whole grant system—in other words, definitely calling an educational halt for three years upon a lower basis of expenditure, and as one instance of his intentions reducing the grant for young children under five from 36s. to 6s.

A change of front

The wording of the circular throughout is strewn with words like "decision" and is based solely on the need for economy.

Nevertheless, as soon as the storm of protest began to gather force, some qualms seem to have been entertained, for the next step in this astonishing change of front was the issue of an "explanatory memorandum," in which it was stated that "the general policy embodied in the circular is based on educational grounds rather than on grounds of economy."

Curious argument! It can only have been intended for those who had never read the circular, and even they must be rather puzzled to know what it means.

"Cut down the grant and call it progress; after all we did say we stood for progress"—that seems to have been the thought behind such an exceptionally silly sentence.

Still the critics were not in the least appeased, whereupon it was announced that the circular was only meant as "a basis for discussion."

Unfortunately for the acceptance of this, it was sent to Scotland as the "carefully considered opinion" of the Government, and the spokesman of the Board of Education in the House of Lords, Lord Somers, repeated several times in debate that "it is the deliberate policy of the President of the Board of Education and of His Majesty's Government."

Extraordinary contradiction

The Government, on the whole, can only be considered rather unlucky in its various statements: no sooner is a thing said by one member of it than it is contradicted by another.

For example, Lord Somers said of the question of the admission to school of children under five, "The President considers that it should be discouraged to a great extent as being of little value to the child except, as I say, in very special circumstances"; the next day the Duchess of Atholl, as Parliamentary Secretary, "repudiates" the suggestion that it is the President's policy "to discourage the attendance of children under five."

Lord Eustace Percy also on another occasion denied that he had ever used the word "discourage." No, he has only cut down the grant from 36s. to 6s.; no idea of discouragement of course, a pure piece of progress if only people will see it in the right light.

Lord Somers, who, not holding a Ministerial post himself, could only speak after having received

Lord Gorell, C.B.E.

what he had to say from official sources, elaborated it beyond mistake in these words:

"The President of the Board is decidedly of the opinion that it is far more beneficial to the children to have a chance of being educated in a higher way later on than for them to spend at school what we regard as the somewhat unprofitable years between the ages of three and five. That is his deliberate opinion and as I think the opinion, rightly expressed, of His Majesty's Government."

A puzzling query

Lord Salisbury, as Leader of the House of Lords, confirmed this. Indeed, the public may well be bewildered.

The Duchess of Atholl says, "The educational policy remains as it was stated a year ago," and she enumerated all the improvements promised. What she did not explain, and what no Minister has attempted to explain, is how any of them are to be carried out now that less money is to be given by the Government.

All the authorities are put into this dilemma: they must reduce the programmes they have been encouraged and exhorted to frame or else they must increase the rates.

In view of the storms of protest Circular 1371 has been suspended for one year—not withdrawn, suspended: held, that is, over the heads of the local authorities and the ratepayers.

The schemes of the localities have been sent back for drastic revision—"ruthless economy" are Lord Salisbury's words about education, unreconcilable with the earlier ones of the Chancellor of the Exchequer—and a fearsome thing, Administrative Memorandum No. 44, has been issued in which the egregious statement that the policy is "based on educational grounds rather than on grounds of economy" is completely dropped.

Brought before the bar

This is a call for cuts undisguised. Geddes is outdone.

There the story breaks off for the moment, but it is not finished. There is at least one chapter more to be written when the Government is called, sooner or later, before the bar of public opinion to defend these inconsistencies and contradictions.

The public, parents and ratepayers, will yet have a word or two to say, and nothing is more certain than that it will be in reversal of such distressing acrobatics.

Candid Communications

Outspoken Messages to Celebrities, Notorieties and, occasionally, Nonentities

To Rt. Hon. Sir W. L. WORTHINGTON-EVANS, Minister of War.

DEAR SIR,—As I pointed out was likely to occur, the trouble at Feltham transport depôt has culminated in a strike. While the engineering workers had no objection to soldiers being trained at the depôt, they did object to soldiers working alongside them on purely productive work at soldiers' rate of pay. That you should inflame this reasonable objection by dismissing fifty civilian workers who were to be replaced by soldiers, shows either wanton disregard or ignorance of the industrial situation.

JOHN BULL.

To the Rt. Hon. Sir W. MITCHELL THOMSON, Postmaster-General.

DEAR SIR,—Were you aware that when two postmen gave evidence at Leicester Police Court that a dog attacked them while on their rounds their pay would be stopped for the time occupied at court? The chairman expressed his amazement that the Post Office should do a thing so "extremely mean." It is mean, and I am sure the public will share the magistrate's astonishment that such a thing should for a moment be countenanced. With such petty tyranny it is surprising we get the excellent type of men for postmen that we do. I hope the Leicester men will be recompensed, and the regulation altered.

JOHN BULL.

To Mr. E. ROSSLYN MITCHELL, M.P., House of Commons.

DEAR SIR,—There's a lot of rubbish being talked about "disciplinary action" and the "possibility of a by-election" because you spoke in favour of the Government's scheme for steel houses. It would be a sorry look-out for free speech in this country if anything of the sort was attempted. Like you, I hold no brief for steel houses as such, but any port in a storm is better than none, a truth you seem to have recognised and acted on. The storm of disease, misery, and death through the present housing situation could hardly be worse.

JOHN BULL.

To Alderman H. B. JONES, Mayor of Port Talbot, Glamorgan.

DEAR SIR,—Things round your way seem pretty desperate. According to Councillor Rees "there are human scavengers in Port Talbot who would ruin the character of an angel," and he wishes, since they are of no use to God or man, that "an epidemic would come and wipe them out." Better is your offer of £100 to whoever will be responsible for the conviction of the persons who have made damaging statements. I agree that those who slanderously blacken the character of others should be jailed.

JOHN BULL.

To Dr. J. C. ASHTON, M.B., Ch.B., London.

DEAR SIR,—I welcome you to the ranks of those desirous to see youth taking the helm. It is with no disrespect to experience that you see on all hands the most responsible positions filled by men past their best. But looking round and seeing young men aching with ambition and bursting with ability you think they should be given their chance to take a hand in putting the world—their new world—on its feet again. With all the influence at my disposal I back your opinion.

JOHN BULL.

To the Rev. H. E. FOSDICK, D.D., Union Theological Seminary, Broadway, New York.

DEAR SIR,—With great clarity, preaching in Geneva Cathedral during the League of Nations assembly, you point out, not the cruelty of war, but its awful futility in our complex civilisation. The last war left Europe with 10,000,000 dead soldiers; 3,000,000 presumed dead soldiers; 13,000,000 dead citizens; 20,000,000 wounded; 3,000,000 prisoners; 9,000,000 war orphans; 5,000,000 war widows; 10,000,000 refugees. You say to speak of modern war as a protection for the weak is a grim jest. It is also a devilish business and none but madmen would think of relying on it.

JOHN BULL.

To Mr. WILLIAM SMITH, Dromara, Co. Down.

DEAR SIR,—You're more than a bit of a marvel. Born at Saintfield in 1801, you are still hale and hearty. You served in the Crimean war, and walk half a mile every Friday to draw your pension. I won't wish you length of days, for at one-hundred-and-twenty-five years old you can claim to have had them. I do wish you a very calm and pleasant eventide.

JOHN BULL.

To Mr. CHARLES GARDNER, Brighton.

DEAR SIR,—You are fifty-eight, and you cannot swim, but when you saw a boy drowning in the sea you plunged instantly into deep water and managed to hold up the little chap until help arrived for you both. That you have received public recognition and a presentation from the Carnegie Hero Fund is nothing more than your due. You are a man.

JOHN BULL.

To Mrs. ELIZABETH MILLS FLOYDE, Westmoor, Brimsdown, Enfield.

DEAR MADAM,—What a capital specimen of fine old English womanhood you must be. At a hundred years old you find you can iron your dainty laces better than anyone else can do them for you, you are cheerful, non-worrying, and full of self-help after going through all these years of strenuous activity, including married life and a family of ten children. I add my congratulations to those you received on your hundredth birthday from H.M. the King. Long may you be spared to set an example to this neurotic age.

JOHN BULL.

To Miss BESSIE ARMSTRONG, Fermanagh.

DEAR BESSIE,—Although only fourteen years of age you show fine courage and resource. When a motor-car full of people stuck half-way over the level-crossing at Maguiresbridge you heard the whistle of an oncoming train, ran along the line, and by frantically waving your apron managed to stop it. That it was only brought to a standstill within a yard of the motor proves what a terrible disaster you averted.

JOHN BULL.

To the UNKNOWN MAN, St. George's Circus, London.

DEAR SIR,—During the busiest hours a frightened horse with van attached careered madly through the Borough, scattering traffic right and left. You dashed from the pavement, took a flying hold of its head, and after being carried 100 yards, disappeared quietly the instant the danger was past. The grateful owners would have liked your name. I like your quality of doing a good turn for its own sake.

JOHN BULL.

FRITZ (who has been asked to join): "Struth! I was led to believe that this was a pacifist club."

Straight from the Shoulder

SIR W. JOYNSON-HICKS:—"Christianity ought not to want stoking up."

It doesn't. What it wants is statesmen who are courageous enough to put it into practice.

* * *

SIR P. CUNLIFFE-LISTER:—"One cannot tell the whole of the truth in ten minutes."

But one can at least tell ten minutes of it.

* * *

MR. ERNEST BEVIN:—"We stand absolutely four square against any reduction of the standard of living."

Then why don't you stand four-square for the reduction of the cost of living?

* * *

COUNCILLOR W. S. LANE:—"I do not want to see a County Councillor's position reduced to that of a mere M.P."

A man's position is what he makes it both in local and national politics.

* * *

REV. S. LITHSAY:—"In the faces of the well-to-do I often find only a brooding discontent."

That is a clear call to the Church to find the reason and the remedy.

Without Fear or Favour—*by The Editor*

LET THEM SQUEAL!

Mussolinism

IT is not always easy to decide whether dictators of the type of Signor Mussolini should be treated quite seriously or with the tolerant contempt we use towards the clowns and mountebanks of the political stage. Either course has its dangers.

To a brain like the Italian dictator's the sense of being regarded as an international personage of first-class importance is like heady wine, and to pay too great a respect to his occasional outbursts of truculence may be to court the very dangers we wish to avoid.

This is one argument; but, without for a moment making too much of Mussolini, we may be permitted to urge one or two common-sense observations.

There is no room in Europe to-day for sabre-rattling of the Hohenzollern type, and the statesman who indulges in this form of provocation, or in a policy of pin-pricks making bad blood between nations, is the enemy of mankind.

When Signor Mussolini shakes a mailed fist at Germany and declares that the present year will be the Napoleonic year of Italian Fascism, he is using language which reeks of the evil spirit of war.

Once before, at Corfu, this would-be Napoleon was permitted to defy the Covenant of the League of Nations and to wreak vengeance upon a weaker nation.

It is not too much to say that a second episode of this nature would bring Europe within sight of a military menace not less than that which, a few years ago, we gave the flower of our manhood to destroy.

Shylock's Reprieve

WHAT influences are at work to impede and delay the passage of the new Moneylenders Bill? For two whole years we have been promised legislation on this vital subject; yet even now the measure introduced by Lord Carson in the Upper House has still to meet the crucial test of debate in the House of Commons.

In the meantime the scandal of heartless usury among the poor goes from bad to worse. In Liverpool alone there are fourteen hundred registered moneylenders, and of these no fewer than eleven hundred are women.

These harpies go from door to door in the slum area, nosing out every case of wretchedness and misfortune, and laying pitiless traps for those in whose poverty they see the hope of profit.

In one case recently brought to light a poor woman paid £42 in respect of a loan of £5 and then was sued in the County Court for £2 9s. 9d. more!

The rod in pickle for the conscienceless moneylender when Lord Carson's Bill shall have become law is much lighter than we could wish, but it will, at any rate, do something to prevent and punish the worse kinds of extortion.

As soon as this long-deferred measure reaches the House of Commons, it should be adopted by the Government and pushed forward with all possible speed.

The Food Fakers' Funeral

AN A1 nation cannot be built up on C3 food. The Ministry of Health has our strongest support in its determination to ensure that poison shall be eliminated from the people's food

AS we predicted some months ago, the dealers in poisoned food are becoming panic-stricken at the approach of the date on which the regulations drafted by the Ministry of Health will put "paid" to their account.

Again and again we have demanded, as the people's right, pure and unadulterated pickles, vegetables, meat, bread, bacon, butter, margarine, cream, beer, wines, mineral waters—everything, in fact, in the average man's daily menu.

For years the nation has been dangerously defrauded of its prime necessity of wholesome food, and the country in common with ourselves welcomed wholeheartedly Mr. Neville Chamberlain's decision to abolish chemical preservatives in all articles of food with a few specified exceptions.

Sir Arbuthnot Lane

Despite the agonised squeals from the food-fakers, despite their desperate intrigue and wirepulling, the Ministry of Health has stood to its guns, and next January the regulations will take effect in regard to nearly all forms of food.

Several dangerous poisons, at present used as food preservatives, will be definitely put on the "black list" and categorically prohibited.

The food fakers ought to be very grateful to the Ministry of Health for allowing them so long a time in which to unload their poisoned stocks on the long-suffering public. But they are not in the least bit grateful.

They are squealing louder than ever in a last-minute attempt to avert their well-deserved fate.

WE are told that "a storm is brewing," it is suggested that "a food crisis" will arise if and when the regulations are put into force, and we are informed that "public opinion is very sharply divided on the question."

All of this is patent rubbish and deliberate intrigue. Public opinion is unanimously in favour, as Sir W. Arbuthnot Lane pertinently remarked the other day, not only of "a square meal, but also of a 'square deal' in regard to the cleanliness of all foods."

And we have no hesitation in repeating the advice we gave to Mr. Neville Chamberlain on a previous occasion. Let him stand firm and refuse to wobble. Let the squealers squeal.

Without their poisons they will be forced to give way to prouder competitors, too honest to deal in diseased and decaying meat, fish offal and vegetable garbage.

THERE are already many reputable firms in the country who are only too glad to put on their products the words, "Free from preservatives." Their action is the complete answer to the ravings of the poison profiteers.

The Ministry of Health need not fear public opinion. That is solidly behind it.

It has declared war on the food poisoners. We demand that it shall be a war to the death.

It is a significant thing that on the one hand there are the trade associations, and on the other the Society of Medical Officers of Health and the British Medical Association.

Could there be clearer proof that the battle is one between commercialism and scientific knowledge?

We assure Mr. Neville Chamberlain that this time he has backed a winner.

Some Silly Statistics

THOUSANDS of farm servants are struggling to-day on mere pittances, and they find it very difficult to obtain a hearing.

The whole question was recently considered at a meeting of the Forest Agricultural Wages Committee, at the Shire Hall, Dorchester. Both farmers and labourers were represented.

Some extraordinary statements were made by Mr. Trehane, the farmers' representative, in criticising the prices for commodities put forward.

Almost every item was queried in a most ruthless manner. The workers had set down an amount of 3s. 6d. for fuel, but the farmers' representative declared that 1s. a week would have been nearer the mark.

Mr. Trehane further declared that good butter could be obtained for 1s. 6d. or 1s. 8d. per lb., while beef could be had at 3s. for 12 lb.

Another point which was put forward on behalf of the employers was that farm-labourers were known to be thrifty, and it was quite clear that they were able to save out of their minimum wage!

Mr. James, the labourers' representative, in refuting Mr. Trehane's arguments, declared that he would like to know the name of the butcher who supplied beef at 3d. a pound. And he might also have questioned the quality!

After citing the case of a farmer who had been able to amass £9,000, Mr. James declared that it was lowering to have the question of thrift on the part of the worker brought up as a reason why wages should be reduced.

It is not only "lowering." It is preposterous.

Fools or Knaves?

IT was a Biblical writer who said that "a fool hath his eyes on the ends of the earth." He would possibly have been hard put to it to find a description for the person who puts his money there.

That, precisely, is what the Government has done once more in giving its blessing to Mr. Amery's Irak Treaty.

Mr. Amery professed to be deeply concerned over the "happiness and welfare" of the "Christian population" of that arid region. He betrayed no concern whatever for the millions of Christian people in Britain who are at this moment in the deepest misery.

Without this sickening hypocrisy, and the cynical declaration that "oil had not the slighest influence one way or the other," our rulers would still stand condemned of a disgraceful breach of faith with the electors.

At the last election, one candidate after another pledged his word and his honour that we should not remain a day longer in Mesopotamia than had already been agreed. Yet 260 voted for the new treaty and 200 more stayed away.

The people of this country are accustomed to be swindled by their representatives. We do not recall a more glaring instance.

The Rt. Rev. Dr. Barnes, Bishop of Birmingham

A Bishop's Daring Speech

by A. G. GARDINER

TERRIBLE statistics are given each year of the result of marriage of the diseased and unfit. To allow such a condition of things to continue is calamitous to the nation and the individual. The problem must be faced and means must be found to end so great a scandal

THE Bishop of Birmingham is a bold man, but he has never done a bolder thing than when, in his speech to the Eugenics Society the other day, he advocated the sterilisation of the unfit. Such a proposal coming from such a source indicates the pace at which we are travelling.

It would, only a few short years ago, have been regarded as little short of blasphemy within the Church. The conception of the Church was that all human life was sacred, that it was controlled by divine will and that any human interference with its propagation was a violation of divine law.

We did not, like the Hindus, regard all life as sacred and its destruction as a sin. We killed anything and everything outside the human pale, from an elephant to a flea. We even cultivated animals in order to kill them and have the pleasure of eating them.

But, man was sacred. It is true that we killed him with great enthusiasm in battle; we even killed him officially if he had taken human life himself. But, in spite of these little complications, the theory that man was the special creation of the Almighty, and that there must be no interference with the laws of Nature in regard to the breeding of his kind, prevailed.

Degrading our inheritance

That is the theory which the Bishop of Birmingham repudiates. He says that man is in some measure the master of his fate, and that it is his duty to interfere with the processes of reproduction in order to raise the quality of the general life. In doing that he is not outraging the divine law: he is fulfilling it.

So long as we are breeding freely from the worst stock, from degenerates, from the feeble-minded, from the congenitally vicious, we are degrading our inheritance and defeating the divine purpose.

We are allowing the garden, which it is our task to make beautiful with the finest blooms of humanity, to be choked with weeds. Pull up the weeds, says the Bishop. Stop the multiplication of the unfit.

It will be admitted that there are a vast number of people born into the world whom we could do without, and who, if they were dogs or horses or cattle, would never be allowed to be born. In this matter Nature, left to itself, is entirely indiscriminating.

It knows no difference between saint and sinner, the wise and the foolish. The Carlyles and Ruskins are often left childless, while the criminal and the feeble-minded propagate abundantly.

An appalling record

I saw not long ago the details of a careful investigation in America into the history of the descendants of a criminal who was executed there three or four generations ago. It was a literally appalling record of crime, madness, murder, violence of every sort extending all over America through the tainted lives that sprang from that one source.

But, it will be said, the way to improve the quality of life is not to sterilise the unfit, but to destroy the conditions that produce the unfit. Clean the sty and you will have clean pigs. Clear away the slums and you will have a healthy and right-minded people.

If the Bishop of Birmingham's proposal were put forward as an alternative to improving the social conditions of the people it would be an insult.

No one can doubt the enormous effect of environment upon life. You can no more cultivate the finest quality of life in the slums of Shoreditch or Ancoats than you can grow the finest flowers in a dark cellar. But I understand Dr. Barnes to be offering not an alternative policy but a complementary policy.

It is true that environment is much, but it is not all. A weak-minded person will produce weak-minded children in whatever conditions he is born.

A puzzling problem

Not long ago this country was shocked by the disclosure of an infamous career in which a man had been engaged in debauching young girls on a systematic and incredible scale.

That man, who is now in prison, was not born in a slum. He drove up to his trial from his country mansion in a Rolls-Royce, and when he comes out of prison he will probably drive back to his mansion in a Rolls-Royce.

Let us get rid of the slums by all means, but do not let us suppose that we shall get rid of all our undesirables by getting rid of the slums.

There are people who are born criminals and there are people who are born weak-minded, no matter what their circumstances may be, and their progeny will be criminals and weak-minded after them.

And the question for society is whether it must permanently accept this burden or whether it is entitled to intervene and say, "In the interests of the community these degenerate forms of life shall be rendered sterile."

It is a very grave question, and I am not here going to commit myself to an answer. With the end which the Bishop of Birmingham has in view I have entire sympathy. I agree that there are multitudes born to afflict society who ought never to be born.

I suppose that if we could segregate ten thousand persons who are the habitual and dangerous criminals who prey on society we could diminish our crime to negligible dimensions, with all that means in waste to the community.

If they did not reproduce, the next generation would be enormously benefited. So with the physically and mentally unfit.

Nor do I see any ground for denying to society the right to purge itself of its own disease. I think it has that right.

Any hesitation I have in the matter is due to the difficulties of designing a system of administration which will safeguard the individual life against the abuse of such an extreme form of prohibition.

I do not say that it is impossible to design such a system. But the power of society over the liberties of the individual in such a matter is not one that we should lightly concede, or having conceded allow to be exercised except under the strictest guarantees of public necessity.

Inevitable conclusion

That there are such cases of public necessity is beyond question. I have alluded to one about which there would be universal agreement. We all know such cases.

In raising the question so boldly the Bishop of Birmingham has done a great public service. He compels us to think about it. And the more we think about it the more we shall be driven to the conclusion that he has reached.

Peace in the industrial world must be secured. War has existed too long and all classes suffer

An Ogre t

LOCARNO denotes an attitude of mind which seeks peace and ensues it. If peace in the shop and peace in the factory can be achieved Locarno will appear upon the pages of history as a landmark in the annals of advancing civilisation.

Lord Rathcreedan

Locarno was effective because there was a genuine desire on all sides to find a way out. If this spirit can be produced, and employers and employed can be brought together in the same frame of mind as statesmen met in at Locarno, there seems to be no reason why the way should not be cleared for a real lasting peace in the industrial world.

It has been suggested that the accredited representatives of Labour and Capital should meet in a conference, but judging by past experience this holds out little prospect of success.

Attempts have actually been made to call national conferences, to institute an Industrial Parliament, but without result. The time was not then ripe. Nor were those concerned in the frame of mind calculated to lead to industrial peace of an enduring type.

As a preliminary to any possible conference three things seem necessary:

First, honesty and sincerity of purpose on both sides; secondly, absolute freedom from mutual recriminations based upon what has gone before; and, lastly, recognition that it is not a case of agitator on one side and sweater on the other.

Given these things I see no reason why the spirit of Locarno should not be brought into industry to sweeten the life of the workshop and sweep away the jealousies that pollute the factory.

THE employee no longer looks upon the employer as a slave-driver eager to extract the maximum of toil from an unwilling worker, and careless of the conditions under which he lives.

Owing to the war and the conditions which resulted from it, both sides have undergone a course of education. There is more knowledge on both sides and a greater degree of sympathy.

Examination of conditions on the Continent of Europe both before and after the war has brought

The March of the Ghosts

by "A GENTLEMAN WITH A DUSTER"

THE horrors of the Great War are tending to be forgotten. In this forgetfulness lies the hope of the war-mongers, who keep on piling up munitions of war. The power of the League of Nations must not be allowed to languish through the apathy of the people

Lord Robert Cec'l, British Representative in the League of Nations

SOMEONE has made an extremely impressive calculation concerning the casualties of the late war. For those who have not lost the power of thinking it should haunt, daunt, and terrify the mind.

Let one of my readers imagine that he is called upon to take the salute of the dead who perished in the war. He leaves his fireside and stands at the door of his home. A band strikes up Chopin's "Funeral March." The procession of the dead begins.

They come, these ghosts of butchered and murdered men, five abreast, marching with soldierly step, each man's eyes turning to the saluting-point as file by file they approach it. A month goes by and the band is still playing, the reader still standing to take the salute of the dead. Another whole month goes by, and still the march of the dead continues.

At the end of the third month the last five ghosts of slaughtered men who have been marching night and day all this time pass out of sight, and the music dies away, and the reader goes back to his wife and children.

What is lost sight of

It is certain, I think, that no man who witnessed such a spectacle as this would ever forget it, and almost certain that he would henceforth sacrifice everything to work for the abolition of war.

But what are we doing to make war impossible, we who have so lately passed through its horrors and still bear in our hearts the scars of its suffering?

A few gentle creatures in every nation are saying that the use of submarines in future wars ought to be prohibited.

It reminds me of Ruskin's attitude to war. That great man exhorted the Victorians to lay down their repulsive machines of slaughter, such as cannons and muskets, and to go into action with the beautiful weapons used by Greeks and Romans. As for warfare by sea, the Victorians were urged to leave their dreadful ironclads in port, and sally forth to meet the enemy with oars and galleys.

Ruskin could not see, and those who now clamour for the abolition of submarines cannot see, that the thing to hate, and the thing to destroy, is not any particular weapon of murder, but murder itself.

The blackest of crimes

In spite of Ruskin's eloquence, as well we know, barbarous weapons of war were continued to be made, and in 1914 the world was so full of them that an explosion followed which shook civilisation to its base.

Can we not see that it will be the same thing with our present crusade against submarines and poison-gas?

I am convinced for my own part that those now striving to abolish the use of submarines and poison gas are doing, not a service to humanity, but a disservice.

For their pious activity tends to make war appear in the eyes of men as one of civilisation's inevitable risks or chances, not as one of its blackest and insanest crimes, as a thing to be regulated and controlled, not to be stamped fiercely and resolutely out of existence.

Better would it be for our sentimentalists to spend their energies in the invention of more and more hellish methods of slaughter, for by such work as this they might at least rouse the attention of thoughtless multitudes to confront the menace of the next war.

Let anyone attempt to visualise the march-past of the ghosts of this next war. Such a procession of slaughtered mortals, though the ghosts came marching ten abreast, would take not three months, but three years, and far more than three years, to pass a single point on its route. And that route would lie across the blackened ruins of Christian civilisation.

Moreover, the ghosts would be the ghosts of women as well as the ghosts of men; and the ghosts of children, multitudes of them babes in their mothers' arms, would exceed in number the entire population of the world at the time of Christ.

For the next war is not to be a case of armies, but of nations. It will not be a dramatic story of regiments torn to bits and batteries blown sky-high, but a narrative of great cities brought to ruin and entire country-sides blackened out of existence.

Why, then, do we not rouse ourselves to destroy this fell destroyer before we ourselves, and our children, are its writhing victims? How is it we cannot see that to tolerate this thing is to invite disaster?

A tremendous warning

I do not know any more disquieting characteristic of the present generation than its apparent indifference to the lessons of the last war. Most people seem to regard the river of blood spilled in that clash of armies as if it were no more than a little milk—a thing not to be cried over.

We should forget the war. We should eat, drink, and be merry. A picturesque ceremony at the Cenotaph once a year is enough for decency. Morbid thoughts are bad for health.

Well, I take another view of the Great War. First, I see it as a warning to the entire human race; secondly, as the birth-throe of the greatest thing which has visited the earth since the dawn of Christianity.

And I hold that if a majority of the human race continues to be indifferent to so tremendous a warning, and does not embrace, as the great and heroic Nansen did, the noble ideal of the League of Nations, another war is inevitable, and a war which will be the righteous end of a civilisation weighed in the balances of God and found wanting.

And to me it seems that the quest of pleasure, excitement, and forgetfulness, is morbid, while to share the idealism of the League of Nations, and to work for its triumph, is joy of the highest order.

Guilty ignorance

Ignorance of the most guilty kind exists about the League, and few people know, because they do not care to know, what it has done already to unify the nations of mankind, to relieve suffering, to extirpate disease, and to prevent frontier incidents from developing into wars.

That such a work of humanising and Christianising civilisation should be proceeding in the world without the liveliest sympathy of all sorts and conditions of men seems to me as if the human race were contented to march blindfold to the abomination of desolation.

Those of us who care for our children would do well to place in the forefront of our politics a demand for the abolition of war; and those of us who do truly and earnestly desire the Will of God to prevail in the affairs of mankind would do well to give the chief enthusiasm of our minds to the League of Nations.

to Banish

by LORD RATHCREEDAN

(A former Junior Lord of the Treasury)

home to me the fact that our rivals in trade are faced with difficulties very similar to those experienced by us, the Germans being faced by an extra handicap in the shape of a dearth of capital.

WHEN in the United States some three years ago I found an approximation to European conditions, with these differences. There was capital in abundance, and in spite of high wages there was a dearth of labour, which labour was compelled to work at a higher rate of pressure than here.

There existed, however, a greater tendency towards what was called the "democratisation of industry," which in the long run tended, on the one hand, towards a larger output, but, on the other, to the throwing out of the hands unable to earn an economic wage.

On the whole, it seemed to me that the friendly feeling existing between employers and employed was more pronounced here than in America.

In view of the position of our most important competitors, is not this the moment to seek a remedy for industrial unrest?

In my opinion, co-operation between employer and employed is of paramount importance. Shift upon the employee all the responsibility he is capable of bearing, carry this principle throughout all grades of workers and success is assured.

If every man knows what he is doing, why he is doing it, what the result is likely to be, and is assured that he will get a fair share of that result according to his skill and energy, then he will be induced to work in his own sphere as hard as the best heads of the concern work in theirs.

A greater output will inevitably follow. Some of the best firms in the country, who years ago adopted these principles, are now reaping the reward, as evidenced by the dividends they are able to pay.

All those engaged should feel that it is *their* business, *their* coal-mine, *their* machinery, and that they are all equally responsible.

If this spirit can be instilled into all classes, we shall be well on the road towards a lasting peace in industry.

WHAT is of still greater importance, we as a nation shall not fail to hold the field against our strongest rivals, for we are blessed with a health-giving climate, natural resources, political freedom, and a central geographical position.

Locarno points the way to better political understanding amongst the nations of the world, and if industry would only endeavour to live and work in a like spirit there should be a happier future in store for the human race.

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WORLD'S BIGGEST SWINDLE

MORE INSURANCE REVELATIONS

Dud Policies for the Poor

TWO powerful articles have lately been contributed to our columns by Mr. A. G. Gardiner on the scandal of industrial insurance. His indictment of the system whereby the thrifty poor have been robbed of their savings, week in and week out over more than a generation, has staggered the reading public.

The more one examines the subject the deeper grows the conviction that never in our time, or in any other, has there been a financial swindle in any sense comparable with it.

Since the outbreak of war, for example, the great industrial insurance companies have collected from the working classes of Britain something like £275,000,000 *more than they have paid back to the policy-holders.*

Legalised swindling

In addition to this, they have drawn £75,000,000 as interest and dividends on premiums previously collected. How many millions of people have paid money in smaller or larger sums, which has either been legally stolen or illegally withheld, only the companies can say.

Certain it is that from at least one out of every two thrifty homes of the people, money has been paid for which there never has been nor ever will be any return.

It is also certain that in almost every working-class street in Britain there are, perhaps, a dozen policy-holders who have money owing to them now *which can be recovered*, but who do not know it.

On this latter vital point we shall deal in a subsequent article. Meanwhile let us examine the question of the legal robbery of the working-class by means of insurance policies, effected as a business bargain.

It should be noted that what is done legally is a far more wicked and extensive swindle than what is done illegally.

Unequal odds

On the one hand, there is a powerful concern possessed of untold wealth and enormous political and financial influence; on the other, there is a simple working-man, or more often than not a working woman, utterly unskilled in coping with the intricacies involved in a legal document such as an insurance policy.

A contract is entered into. The policy-holder, in nine cases out of ten, does not realise, and cannot be expected to realise, that he may be making a thoroughly bad bargain. The company, employing as agent an astute man who knows every move in the game, trades on the other person's ignorance.

Take the question of the endowment policy. We have no hesitation in saying that this class of insurance, on the basis on which it is now worked, ought to be absolutely prohibited.

Perfectly legal as it is, the results are monstrous. Even if premiums are kept up until the last, and an endowment is paid, it is invariably less than the amount subscribed by the holder. Nothing is allowed for interest. But, in fact, few endowments ever mature.

Money for nothing

It is calculated by experts of many years' experience that not more than one in ten of these policies is paid to maturity. Through poverty or other misfortune, the majority lapse and no money is returned on them.

His Grace the Duke of Sutherland, Paymaster-General, in whose name are lodged security deposits by assurance companies, and who should take steps to see that the public receives fair play

In this direction alone the companies make millions of pounds every year.

Here is a very ordinary instance of what happens. Four years ago Mrs. Ethel Harry, Church Street, Helston, took out a fifteen years' endowment policy at a shilling a week premium.

The amount to be paid at the end of the fifteen years was £23 8s., or nearly £16 less than the £39 she would be expected to contribute. If she died at any time before the expiration of the fifteen years only £11 14s. would be paid.

Assuming that all had gone well, this would have been an extraordinarily good bargain for the company concerned. At a shilling a week, or £2 12s. a year, they would have entirely covered their slight death risk in about four and a half years. Thereafter they would be drawing money for nothing.

Preposterous contracts

Instead of *paying* interest on the capital sum invested, as a bank would do, they would, in fact, be *receiving* a "gratuity" of £16 on £23 returned on top of the interest they themselves would draw for reinvesting the money.

It is hardly credible that the law should permit such a preposterous contract, which is typical of millions now existing between unsophisticated working people and the great insurance companies.

But the unfortunate woman above mentioned cannot even look forward to receiving £23 back for £39 paid in, at the end of fifteen years. Lately she was overwhelmed with poverty, and was forced to allow the policy to lapse.

In the four years she has paid £10 8s. This entire sum, representing all her savings scraped together by dint of real self-sacrifice, is confiscated by the insurance company. She cannot recover a penny. It has been legally "obtained." She has no redress.

We have purposely selected a mild example to illustrate the iniquity of the whole business. It is typical of millions, in some of which the hardship may be less, in others greater.

We could cite a score of other cases, all brought to our notice in one post-bag, where the amounts surrendered on lapsed policies on one life range from £15 to £60, with no return. There is no need to mention them.

The truth is clear as daylight, that the system of industrial endowment insurance is a wicked financial swindle perpetrated at the expense of the finest class in the community, the thrifty working people.

These policies ought to be prohibited by law. They are "harsh and unconscionable" in the extremes We single out no particular company. They are all alike bad. They may differ in details, but in the end they achieve the same shameful purpose, of transferring the pennies and sixpences of the poor into their own swollen coffers.

Soulless and unsympathetic

Individual cases of hardship leave them unmoved. There is neither soul nor sympathy in their composition. The aged and the sick are grist to their mill like any others.

Old John Reed, now residing in the almshouse at Hull, can tell you that. John is now seventy-six, and took out an ordinary industrial policy away back in 1889. For years and years he kept paying regularly until his premiums amounted to 6s. 11d. a week and the policy had a value of £138.

His total premiums amounted to much more than that—namely, £215. Now, owing to old age and infirmity, and the inadequacy of his old-age pension, he cannot continue his premiums.

His policy has lapsed, and the company allow him a "free policy" value of £42 5s. 1 They have made a profit on old John of £173, and John's share of the bargain is the almshouse.

Had he put his money in the Post Office Savings Bank he would now have been able to draw a nice sum to tide him over his declining years.

Victims of a cruel system

Next week we shall deal with some other serious aspects of the insurance scandal. We may add that, however severe our criticism of the companies, we are not attacking the agents.

There are doubtless unscrupulous men among them, but the vast majority are as much the victims of a cruel system as the policy-holders.

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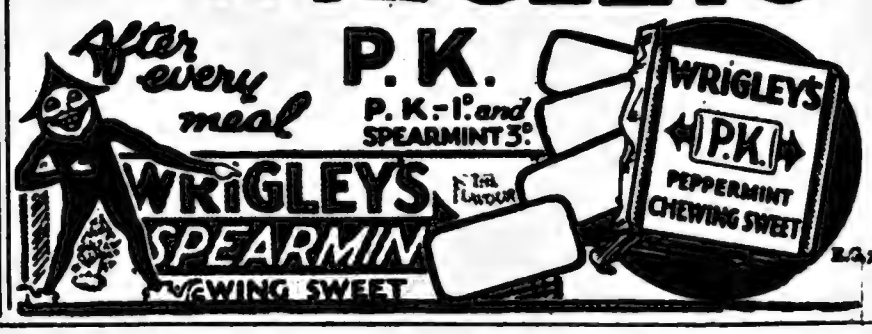

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26/9

THE GILT-EDGED KIPPER

A BIT OF BILLINGSGATE

The Filthy Fish Scandal

ONE of the British food trades in which the profiteer is rampant to-day is that concerned with the marketing and distribution of fish.

The Food Council would do well to turn its attention to this important industry and come to the rescue of the British housewife upon whose purse an exorbitant toll is being levied by serried ranks of middlemen at ports of landing and in market rings all over the country.

How great that toll is may be seen at a glance in the following comparative prices of fish usually forming an important part of the dietary of a working-class household:

	1913.	1926.
Bloaters	2 a penny.	1½d. each.
Herrings	2 a penny (not then sold by weight).	6d. lb.
Kippers	3 pairs for 2d.	1 pair for 2d.
Cod ..	4d. to 6d. lb. ..	10d. to 1s. lb
Skate ..	4d. lb.	1s. lb.
Plaice ..	6d. to 8d. lb. ..	1s. 2d. to 1s. 6d. lb.
Haddock:		
Fresh	3d. to 4d. lb. ..	6d. to 8d. lb.
Dried	½d., 1d., 1½d., 2d. and 3d. each ..	10d. lb.

To-day, therefore, the British housewife has to pay 200 per cent. more than in 1913 for bloaters, kippers, cod and skate; 125 to 133 per cent. more for plaice, and at least 100 per cent. more for fresh haddock.

Food used as offal

On the basis of the index of the cost of living, calculated by the Ministry of Labour, this means that, since the war, the price of fish is more than 2½ times as high as other articles of food in the budget of the working-class household.

Who is getting these excessive profits in fish trading?

Certainly not the fisherman who daily risks life and health steaming over icy Northern waters to gain his hard-won livelihood.

A few months ago a number of fishermen landed a record catch of herrings at a southern port. They found them practically unsaleable even at twelve a penny, and were forced to rid themselves of the catch by dumping them back into the sea or selling them for offal at entirely unremunerative prices.

In fact, these unfortunate fishermen did not get enough to pay for the actual labour costs of the trip. The shocking part of it is that on the same day herrings were selling all over England at 6d. a pound.

Wicked concealment

The fisherman's real wages depend on the quantity of fish landed and the selling prices realised at the fish auctions. He is fleeced by the middlemen at the ports who have established rings to keep down the prices paid to fishermen.

But the housewife in the fishing towns has to pay for her fish as dearly as, or even more dearly than, the housewife elsewhere!

About 80 per cent. of the fish landed is sold without reserve by professional fish salesmen and commission-agents, who are known to conceal the actual results of their sales, thus robbing the fishermen and the public. Wholesale fish merchants and curers buy the fish from these commission salesmen.

The vicious circle

In some cases the trawler owner is also a wholesaler and retailer too. Being a "ring" in himself he sells at auction only the fish not needed for his own wholesale and retail establishments.

His profits are grossly excessive.

There is another ring of buyers who merit attention. These are the secondary wholesalers from inland markets who purchase from the primary buyer by agent or in person at the fish auctions.

Lord Bradbury, Chairman of the Food Council

Then we have the "bass trade" in which wholesalers send out boxed fish direct from the port to the consumer. If economy of distribution can be effected here, why not in other branches of the industry?

Nor must we overlook our friends at Billingsgate, the great fish-distributing centre. If the public realised the profits made by that particular section of the ring, their language might vie in fervour with that for which the Billingsgate porters themselves are famous!

Disgusting handling

There is an even graver charge to be made against the fish distributors than that of extortionate profiteering. The filthy methods by which this vital article of food is handled at some stages of transit are a disgrace.

If you are on the quay of a northern port at night time you will see steaming in the trawlers from Iceland, the Faroes, the Orkneys and the North Sea. They begin to land their catches at from 2 a.m. to 5 a.m., the times varying from port to port.

The fish is unloaded by primitive hand methods. Medium-sized fish are thrown by hand from the hold to the quay, and small fish are scooped into baskets and hoisted up by a winch or hauled up by men.

Large fish are raised by winch to the quay, where they are dragged along by a curved stick. Tons of ice are dumped overboard which might be employed to keep the fish fresh in transit.

No sooner is the fish on the quay, than all the ice is separated from it, and it is sorted out on the floor into heaps of different sizes or loaded into boxes.

The fish stays on the quay under open sheds of corrugated iron from four to six hours until the fish-buyers arrive, and, during all this time, no ice whatever is placed on the fish, until seven hours later, when it is despatched to the fish trains.

It is exceptional for a dealer to ice his fish immediately after he has bought it. At Western ports, fish may lie on the quay for eight hours or more before icing, and if its destination cannot be decided it may remain un-iced at the port for twelve or fourteen hours.

Terrible waste

Indeed, so bad are the conditions at most ports of landing that the fish is actually trodden on, and one may see piles of fish-boxes lying on the quays in the sun, swarming with flies attracted by pieces of rotting fish in the boxes.

Herrings are loaded into filthy barrels, or tipped into open railway trucks with no other protection than a dirty tarpaulin sheet.

In the afternoon, that part of the fish consigned to London is loaded on to fish express trains, each of the fish-boxes being sprinkled haphazardly with small quantities of crushed ice between the successive layers of fish in the box.

On the journey, the railway company makes no attempt to cool the fish vans, although fresh fish ought to be kept at a constantly low temperature; and as the freight charge for ice is about £5 per van, its free use is penalised.

On arrival at London, the fish, now at the same temperature as the air, is unloaded into open carts and taken to Billingsgate, where it is exposed for sale in the market, or outside in the street, for seven hours, un-iced and liable to contamination by germs and filth.

As a natural consequence, at least 250 tons of fish are condemned each month at Billingsgate.

Disseminating disease

At one big London railway station the fish is unloaded on a "bank," or platform, also used for the discharge of Continental fruit, cheese and chocolate. So many fish boxes are smashed in transit on rail that porters armed with hammers and nails go round this station repairing the smashed boxes and filling them with fish picked up from the mud and slime of the platform. The platform is then swept, but not washed, to be ready for more fruit!

Whether the railway companies, because of their high freights for ice, or the fish merchants themselves are responsible for the dissemination of disease and filth, the matter demands the immediate attention of the Ministry of Health.

Moo–oo!

Have you ever passed a dairy farm at the moment when the cows are coming in to be milked? Have you seen them swinging in a slow procession down the lane? And have you ever at such a time asked for a glass of milk, just for the pleasure of drinking it, so new and warm and virtuous?

Nestlé's Milk is taken when it is like that. It is carried swiftly in cans as clean as new pins to a spotless and speckless condensery where cleanliness is almost a mania.

And then it is sealed to protect it from dust and dirt and germs and pump and preservatives. Just the richest milk taken when it is warm and good and made safe for you and your children, but with the cream and all the vitamines carefully left in it and only water taken from it.

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BRIGANDS FROM DEBRETT

by ALEX. M. THOMPSON ("Dangle")

THE people are continually making exertion to improve the conditions by which they are surrounded. At every turn, however, they are bled and hindered by a host of parasites who make capital from the improved conditions that have resulted from thrift and industry

IN certain parts of South Africa land may be bought for three-halfpence per acre; in certain parts of London and other big cities land has been sold for more than a million pounds per acre. Why the difference?

His Grace the Duke of Northumberland, who owns nearly two hundred thousand-acres of British land, has lately condescended to favour us with his simple answer to this question.

The present value of land in this island, he complacently declares, "has been created mainly by the labour, the enterprise, intelligence, and capital of the owner!" It is as simple as that!

The other people, the nameless millions of brave and clever nobodies whose blood and brains, pluck and toil, have gone to the making of England—all these are as insignificant and contemptible in the view of his Grace as are flies to the corpulent spider that feeds on them.

The three Dukes of Westminster, Bedford, and Portman contrived, even before the war, to collect a tribute of £7,000,000 to £8,000,000 a year from the people of London, and so consistently diligent have they been in welldoing that the value of land in the metropolis is estimated to have increased ever since at the rate of at least £1,500,000 per year.

Trade may slump or trade may boom; their rents mount up for ever.

A scourge on enterprise

But it is an ungrateful world. The beneficent "enterprise" which the Duke of Northumberland so admires in his ducal comrades fails to enthuse the London shopkeepers who provide the booty.

The keeper of a restaurant near Holborn has been moved by it to present his customers with a leaflet conveying "a few facts as to leasehold injustice in London and other large cities," wherein he describes the system as "a scourge on commercial enterprise . . . crippling industry."

He tells of traders who found on trying to renew the leases of their shops that the premises whose business they had created by their capital and labour had been let at an enormously increased rental to business rivals.

I know of a similar case where a lady, on her husband's death, invested all she possessed in starting a tea-room in a busy London thoroughfare. The rental was £380 a year. She worked hard and established a good business. Then the landlord stepped in and raised the rent to £800.

The poor lady could not afford to pay it, and a removal to other premises would have meant starting her work all over again. The vampire's tentacles had her in a helpless plight. What she had created he was determined to grab.

Ultimately, she was driven to let off one of the two rooms she occupied, and carry on as best she could in the remainder.

The man who makes my clothes took a ground floor in the West End some years ago at an inclusive rental of £250. After seven years the rental should have been increased to £300, but through some grievance over lavatory accommodation he imprudently allowed his lease to lapse.

The landlord, jumping at his chance, raised the rent to £1,000 plus two-thirds of the rates. The tailor could not pay and had to clear out.

Plundered by private pirates

The rebuilding of Regent Street has raised the rentals of Crown property in that street from £26,383 to £450,000! In this case, fortunately, the increase goes to the National Treasury in relief of our taxes. But the fact remains that the tenants in many cases are threatened with bankruptcy.

And what of the other cases where the plunder falls into the pockets of private pirates? The site of the Foundling Hospital was sold in 1741 for £6,500; last year it was sold for £1,650,000!

All over London, all over the country, this steady unceasing increase in the toll levied by landowners on the labour and enterprise of the people mercilessly proceeds. The harder we work the more the brigands profit.

Consider what it means in cost of production, in cost of distribution, in cost of essential commodities, in cost of housing. Whatever happens to other charges, rents are rising, rising all the time.

Can we wonder then that trade is depressed, that our artisans are unemployed, that we are all suffering the pinch of increased cost of living, and that slums remain a foul, festering, and infamous abscess on our civilisation?

One of the ironies of the situation is that even public improvements bring more profit to the landlords than to the people. Some time ago the Corporation of Manchester spent £16,000,000 to secure an open space in a congested district.

To make a road alongside they needed a strip of land from the man who had sold them the space, and he—a true disciple of the Duke of Northumberland—had the brazen effrontery to tell them that the price had gone up because of the increased value given to his land by the public pleasure-ground!

The same thing happens every time a philanthropist presents a park to a town. The financial profit invariably goes to the rackrenters.

Alex. M. Thompson

It is a great game. The mere whisper that a corporation proposes to lay a new line of tramways, that a railway company is about to electrify and improve the local train service, that a firm of manufacturers is starting a new factory, will raise rents by leaps and bounds.

Business enterprise is throttled, city streets are congested, railway termini become labyrinths of inconvenience, vast swarms of the people are packed in breeding-dens of cancer and consumption, and the progress of the whole nation is arrested because the rackrenters fine us so heavily for our industry that we cannot afford room to breathe, move, or develop.

Mr. Lloyd George's land proposals may not be the best that can be devised for the mending of this evil, but he has done good service to the nation by rousing it at long last to a monstrous iniquity

A dreadful outlook

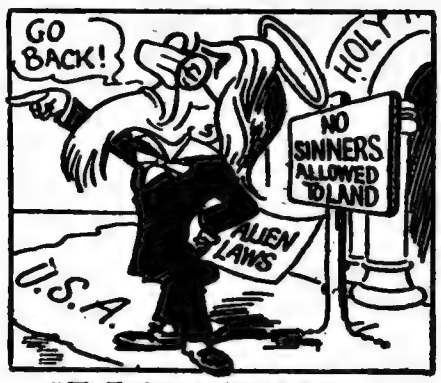
We have done much in late years to improve the conditions of life for the masses. We have humanised the factory laws, checked the "sweating" of women and children, extended the benefits of free education, reformed the poor law, provided maintenance for unemployed.

But by some weird and unaccountable neglect we have constantly ignored the most flagrant of all hindrances to social well-being, a root cause of economic trouble, a canker ceaselessly sapping the national industry and commerce.

We cannot make the parasites disgorge their digested plunder, but unless something drastic is done now to check their perpetually swelling suction of the national life-blood, what will be the state of England fifty or a hundred years hence?

Cartoonettes and Topical Jingles

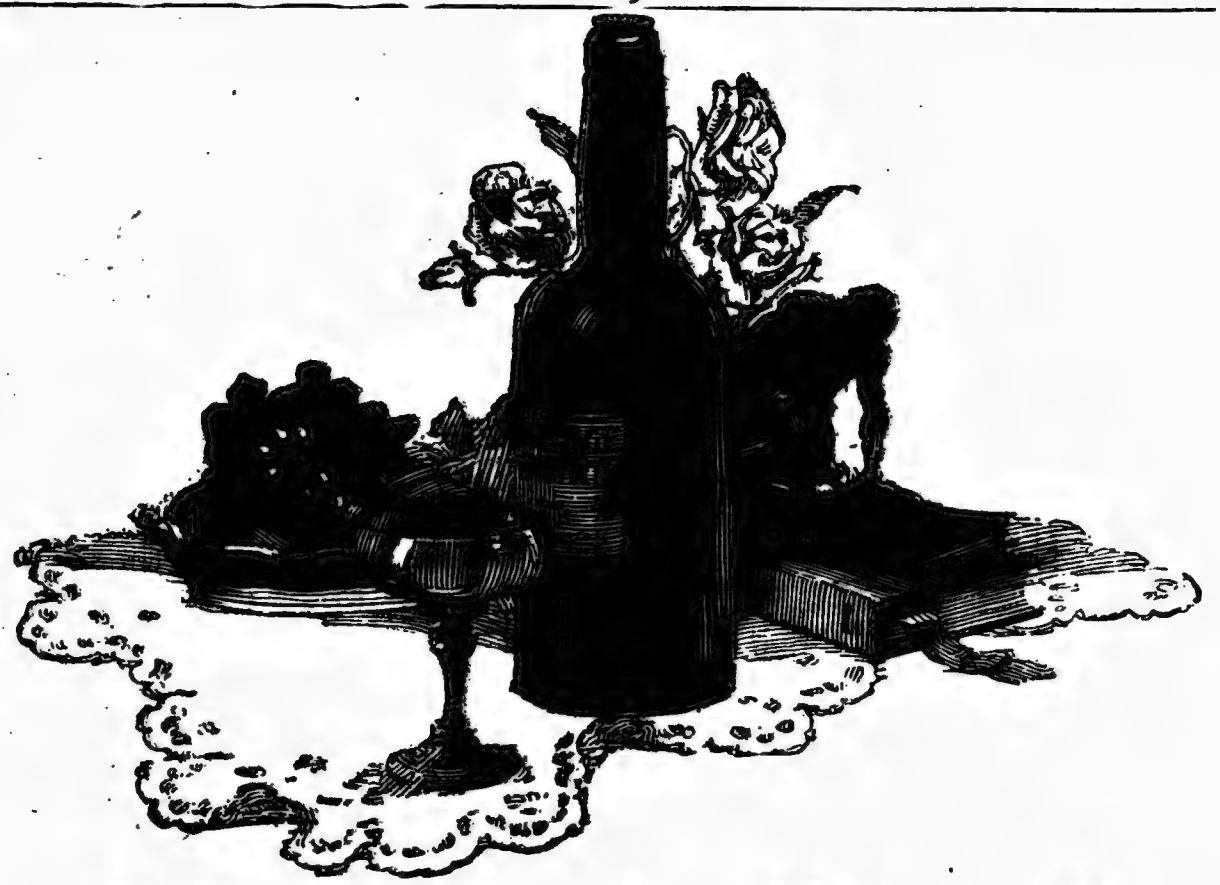
by FRANK HOLLAND



"We Yankees are too saintly far
To risk the slightest leaven,
None touched by sin may enter in
Our pure unsullied heaven!"

If it be true that Councils do
A little good, we think
When they conclude this one on Food
They might have one on Drink!

To hear this shriek come from the beak
That we should "save our money"
Seems, when you're broke, a tactless joke
That's rather grim than funny.



Like wine, the Wuncell Valve improves with age

IT is a remarkable fact that the Wuncell—alone among Dull Emitters—actually improves with age. Whereas in most dull emitters the filament loses much of its emission through course of time, that used in the Wuncell actually gains in productivity of electrons.

The Wuncell filament is unique. It is built up layer upon layer under an entirely new process. As a result it is exceptionally robust. When next you get the opportunity to examine a Wuncell compare its filament with that used in any other dull emitter—or even in any bright emitter. You will be amazed at its thickness. It is practically as stout as that used in the average bright emitter. Yet its wonderful economy of current will enable a six-volt accumulator (with its cells re-connected in parallel to give 2 volts) to give 70 hours' use where it gave but nine before.

Couple that exceptional economy with the fact that the filament never gets hotter than a very dull red and you will readily realise that even if Wuncells cost twice as much they would be much cheaper in the long run than any bright emitter.

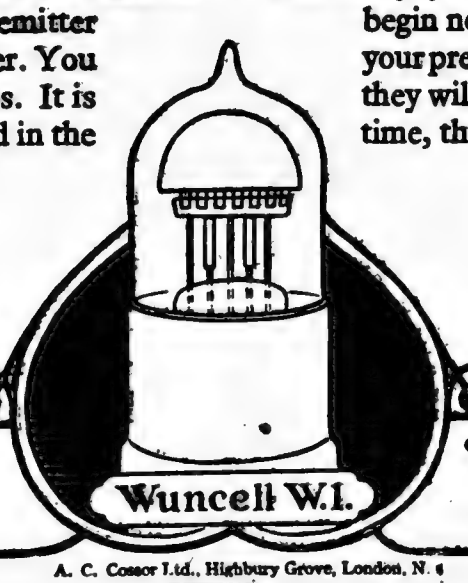
Eventually you'll use Wuncells—why not begin now? Buy them one by one as your present valves become useless. If they will save you money in a month's time, they will save you money now.

For 2-volt Accumulators.

W.1. For Detector and L.F. use - 14/-
Consumption: .3 amp.

W.2. (With red top) For H.F. use - 14/-
Consumption: .3 amp.

W.3. The Loud Speaker Valve - 18/6
Consumption: .5 amp.



For 2, 4 or 6 Volts.

W.R.1. Similar to W.1, but with special resistance which can be short-circuited when not required - - 16/-

W.R 2. Similar to W.2, but with resistance as above - - 16/-

Cossor Valves

A. C. Cossor Ltd., Highbury Grove, London, N. 5

Gilbert Ad. 4664

Busy day—cold meat, hash with Bisto—*perfect treat*

BISTO *for Hash and Stews.*

8.58

Fine for Lumbago

Musterole drives pain away and brings in its place delicious, soothing comfort. Just rub it in gently.

It is a clean, white ointment made with oil of mustard. It will not blister like the old-fashioned mustard plaster.

Use Musterole for coughs, colds (it often prevents pneumonia), sore throat, neuralgia, headache, rheumatism, chilblains, pains and aches of the back or joints.

BETTER THAN A MUSTARD PLASTER

MILLER'S MUSTEROLE WILL NOT BLISTER

Thos. Christy & Co., London

In Sunshine Ward

A BOLSHIE'S CONVERSION

An Unexpected Revolution

by PHILIP INMAN

A wise man once set out to prove that tragedy and comedy are the same thing. Whether or no, the poet who sang that "Our sincerest laughter with some pain is fraught" certainly spoke truly. So, in the stories which I shall tell each week, all of which are based on my own experience, we shall find that where there is shadow there must be light, and where there is light there is always a little shadow.

IF I were an artist I would paint two companion pictures. A beautifully furnished room, a bright fire burning in the grate, a middle-aged man sitting in an arm-chair reading a book—these I would depict in the first and I would call it "Tranquillity."

The second one would have for its background a small, gloomy garret. It would be almost devoid of furniture, but there would be an old table and two soap-boxes to serve as chairs.

Huddled in the corner, covered only by an old coat, is a child and the distorted face suggests that she is in great pain. Gazing upon her with a hungry look in his eyes is an unkempt and dishevelled man. I would call this picture "Tragedy."

Now, these two pictures are not based on an artist's imaginings, but are founded upon life. Let me fill in the details as I know them.

"East is East and West is West,
And never the twain shall meet."

Rudyard Kipling was thinking of thousands of miles away when he penned those words, but I should like to apply them to London.

Harley Street, according to the Post Office, is West 1. The postal district of Canning Town is East 16. In fashion and custom they are as far apart as the poles, but latitude and longitude are quickly bridged when human life is at stake.

The call that commands

The central figure in my first picture is a distinguished surgeon, one of the giants in the medical profession. It shows him just as he has settled down for a quiet read after a long and trying day's work.

From eight o'clock in the morning he has been operating, with only a short break for a hurried meal. Now his work is done and there is for him a cheerful fire and a fascinating book.

His telephone bell rings, and a few minutes later he is putting on his coat to go out into a cheerless night and into a still more cheerless place in response to the S.O.S. he has received.

The human touch

The second picture has its original in the top floor of a block of tenement-houses in Canning Town. The man depicted is a well-known character in that neighbourhood. He is a self-styled Communist, an unashamed Bolshevist.

Two years ago he became unemployed, and after a fruitless search for work he gave it up in despair and joined the ranks of the street-corner orators. The overthrow of capitalism, the destruction of civilisation—these were the texts on which he constantly preached.

When it came down to hard facts he hardly knew what he wanted, but, at any rate, the new order could not be any worse than the old. Revolution he talked about glibly. The revolution came, but it was something far different from what he had expected. He found it in his own home.

One night he returned to his hovel to find his little girl in the throes of agonising pain. She was the only tangible thing he had to love, and something seemed to snap within him at the thought of losing her.

When an hour later the child was carried to the local hospital he followed behind—broken and dejected.

It was for this little patient that the Harley Street surgeon, without thought of fee or reward, left his cheerful fireside.

Philip Inman

It was in the operating theatre of that hospital that for three hours he fought with death.

The trouble was not only a surgical one; he had to battle against a weakened constitution caused by her environment and lack of nourishing food. The odds were against him, but when he came out of the room he knew that he had won.

As he was leaving the building the matron called him on one side. She told him of the heartbroken father, and begged that he would speak a word of reassurance to him. The surgeon took the man into a private room and for over an hour they remained closeted together.

The fruit of knowledge

Eventually they came out, and the warm hand-clasp was the signal of the understanding between them. "He may be a Bolshie, but he's a great fellow and I like him," said the distinguished surgeon as he entered his car.

"He's one of them aristocrats I've been up against, but he's a proper gentleman. I didn't know there were any like him," murmured the Communist.

What a different world it would be if we could all see the other fellow's point of view.

The Sentence of the Court

Very Ancient Lights

A Lord Lieutenant's Tenacity

CHARGED with receiving, Lord Treowen, Lord Lieutenant of Monmouthshire, said he was damned if he knew what it was all about.

"The mystification of the accused," said Mr. Watchdog, K.C., "is more or less pardonable, since he is one of those for whom ignorance is bliss; but unfortunately, his private bliss is purchased at the expense of the public good.

"Addressing the Monmouthshire Chamber of Agriculture, the accused mentioned that a friend had advised him to sell his estates, but his lordship replied: 'My family have not done badly from the land for about 800 years in this country, and I'm damned if I don't stick to it until it busts.'

"This statement does credit to his lordship's heart, but not to his head, and when he speaks of land ownership as 'one of the greatest sources of happiness,' he doesn't seem to realise that while this source of happiness is reserved to the few, the many can never experience it.

"Even Lord Treowen's frank admission that he and his family have 'not done badly' out of the land is merely equivalent to saying that a number of others have been badly 'done out of it.'

"However benevolent may be his sentiments, the landowning peer in his county house counting out his money is playing the part of a receiver of stolen property. He may honestly regard his landed possessions as his birthright, but they are in fact the earthright of the people."

* * *

Mr. Strawsplitter said that if there were more landlords like Lord Treowen there would be less nonsense heard about giving the land back to the people. The fact that his lordship had done well out of the land was a good reason for allowing it to remain in his possession, for what was a valuable asset in his hands might become a liability in the hands of others.

"The specious reasoning of counsel for the defence," said Mr. Justice Bull, "cannot alter the fundamental fact that the earth was intended for mankind as a whole to have and enjoy. Also, I fail to see that a capacity for collecting rents is proof of a highly developed talent for agriculture.

"It would be as reasonable to argue that a youth who makes a hobby of collecting stamps is the best possible person to manage the Post Office.

"Lord Treowen's determination to stick to his estates 'until they bust' is not undeserving of admiration, but to become enthusiastic about the 'patriotism' of someone who merely announces that he has no intention of sacrificing a steady source of income strikes me as a little absurd.

"Such patriotism is easier to acquire than that which causes a man to fight for what he is told is 'his' land in time of war, although he well knows that he cannot obtain an acre of it except by paying through the nose.

"Doubtless the prisoner means well according to his lights, but they are 'ancient lights,' and while his words are admirable, his deeds—I mean, of course, his title deeds—are repugnant to modern ideas of justice.

"I must therefore direct his lordship to burst up his estates or be damned."

Moonlight Bathing at the Crow's Nest.

More Startling Hayley Morriss Revelations in Next Sunday's "PEOPLE."

BY APPOINTMENTS

'You mustn't see how I do it'

IT isn't good for a man to know how simply a clever woman can do great things—he might try to do them himself.

So never let him see how you obtain that rich, spicy flavour he swears he gets nowhere but in his own little house. Let him keep on thinking it takes hours and hours (and three years in a Cookery School) though all the time you know you really produce your results by pouring a few drops out of a bottle. But there is only *one* bottle from which you can pour these glorious cookery flavours, and that's a bottle of—

Yorkshire Relish

9D. PER BOTTLE.

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WINCARNIS
"The Wine of Life."

is delicious. Just take a wineglassful before or after meals. It will protect you against all the ills and dangers of this treacherous winter weather. Used by the British public for 40 years.

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Please send me a Free Sample Bottle of 'Wincarnis.' I enclose Fourpence in stamps to pay postage, etc. [Please put a 1½d. stamp on your envelope.]

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but never burns your tongue.

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POST FREE! A Postcard brings 64-page Medical Guide FREE from Dept. J.B., STIRCHLEY LABS., BIRMINGHAM

Words Winged to Women

LOVE WITH A BAYONET

Hearts or Furniture?

by **MABEL HORNER**

A WOMAN barrister, Miss C. M. Young, has appeared for a girl plaintiff in a breach of promise case in the High Court. This makes legal history. Will it be, it is asked, that henceforward women barristers will specialise in this type of case?

Heaven forbid. The mere idea of such a calamity is shattering as a bomb to our painful climb towards sex equality. Year after year the wresting of human rights from the grip of privilege and prejudice goes on. But progress towards equal citizenship is made.

The existence of women barristers is a proof in itself. Both branches of the legal profession were closed to women until the Sex Disqualification (Removal) Act became law in December, 1919.

Before that date it mattered not how brilliantly endowed with special gifts a legal-minded woman might be, she was not admitted as a Bar student. The Benchers of Gray's Inn fought strenuously for their monopoly.

A higher court

And when in 1903 Miss Bertha Cave challenged them in the High Court the judges upheld the Law Society in its determination not to admit women to its examinations.

But there remained a higher court still, and when the women of the country really pressed home to the Government the cause of sex equality the battle of the women lawyers was won.

The Act was passed which has taken from all professions the last remnant of sex disqualification.

In May, 1922, Dr. Ivy Williams was called to the English Bar, to become the first of a long line of distinguished women practitioners.

Nor is the Irish Free State behind. Miss Moran, daughter of Senator Moran of the Free State, practises with conspicuous success, and has become Reid Professor of Law in Dublin University.

Lowering woman's dignity

Even more noticeable is the fact that the other day the Baroness Clifton was called to the Bar at Lincoln's Inn. The baroness may not practise, but she has undertaken the hard, long, preliminary slogging—she has passed the examinations. She is proving that life is something more than one long man-hunt.

It is not surprising that Miss Young won her case. She conducted it brilliantly. Her client was awarded £74 10s. "damages" against the man who had promised to wed her and then took another to wife.

When it was over Mr. Justice McCardie spoke. He had observed that actions for breach of promise were brought with a desire to punish a man or extract money from him. In his opinion, it was infinitely better that *an engagement marred by quarrelling should be broken off rather than a marriage full of bitterness and misery should follow.*

Those were words of gold for every pair of lovers to ponder. But I will go further than his lordship. I say that actions for breach of promise of marriage lower the whole dignity of womanhood, and bring to naught the splendid work that better informed women are still engaged in for the perfecting of equal citizenship.

Miss C. M. Young, Barrister, whose success in the High Court makes history in breach of promise cases

If a man has left a woman with an illegitimate child to keep, or if furniture or other property be wrongfully detained, there are more dignified forms of law under which to sue.

The world would laugh at a man who took advantage of his right to sue a woman for mere breach of promise; it must equally laugh the woman out of her folly.

She is admitting herself a mere piece of goods in the marriage market, "damaged" for other possible purchasers.

She is exposing her own feeble-minded willingness to marry a jilt, or use money which he hands over under compulsion. The law that makes actions for breach of promise possible must go.

A Secret Intrigue

by **DR. MARIE STOPES** (*President of the Society for Constructive Birth Control and Racial Progress, Author of "Married Love"*)

IT is curious that an otherwise distinguished medical officer of health should stoop to the tactics against birth control which Sir John Robertson pursues. Quite recently he made a gratuitous attack on birth control in his annual report, in the course of which he made positive mis-statements of fact; and now he issues a very secret and very disgraceful document.

It is supposed to be circulated "only to the medical profession," and is calculated to hypnotise or intimidate them into signing a statement *against* birth control.

As we are constantly told public funds must not be used and public officials of the Ministry of Health must not promulgate birth control, why should public officials be allowed with impunity to plot against birth control in such a way?

DOUBTLESS publicity given to the scheme will considerably vex those who desired to make it effective. But as it aims at violating free speech in this country, it is well that the public should know what is going on, and that a full exposure of the facts be demanded. Hence, I give the document in full.

Sir John Robertson, Medical Officer of Health, and another send the following out from the Public Health Department, Council House, Birmingham, addressing fellow doctors:

"Recently, an informal committee was formed to consider how best to prevent the damage which is being done by the wide advocacy of the use of contraceptives among young men and women. It was considered that some general expression of opinion by the medical profession in Birmingham would be a great help to the clergy and other religious and social workers in their efforts to combat this. We have accordingly drafted a statement which I trust you will sign if you are in agreement with it.

"There is a considerable amount of evidence that promiscuity has increased among the young, and some evidence that the continued use of some of the contraceptives on the market has produced illness.

"It is, of course, generally recognised that most intelligent married people have exercised self-control in regard to the number of their family by means which are unobjectionable. Within recent years, however, the makers of certain appliances have advertised them so widely among the unmarried people of this country that real harm may be occasioned."

SIR JOHN ROBERTSON thus allows that "most intelligent married people" limit their families, and covertly implies that it is by the exercise of "self-control," but he saves his skin by adding that it is by "means that are unobjectionable."

So a careless reader of the statement would jump to the conclusion that the "unobjectionable means" are "self-control" (hence that the Churches are right), but the careful reader will want to know *what* are the "means which are unobjectionable." I challenge Sir John Robertson to tell us.

Now, let us look at the statement which the medical profession is asked to sign. It is as follows:

"I am of opinion that steps should be taken to prohibit by law the wide distribution of literature to the young on the prevention of conception, as such practice is likely in the course of time to damage the family life of the nation by increasing promiscuity or irregular connection.

"It is our opinion that harm may follow the use of many forms of contraceptives now advocated by the lay public and extensively advertised by certain manufacturers.

"The continued use of contraceptives in early married life may be followed by inability to have children when the desire for them arises.

"The belief that if a man does not satisfy his sexual desire his health will suffer is quite unfounded; on the contrary, all are better citizens for learning and practising self-control when this is necessary."

Here Sir John Robertson hopes to reap the benefit of his subtly worded preliminary letter. Having drugged the conscience of the signatories by allowing (or appearing to allow) that some birth-control methods are "unobjectionable" and used by "most intelligent married people," he then gets them into his net by urging that the distribution of literature on the prevention of conception *to the young* is harmful.

NATURALLY, we all disapprove of the distribution of such literature to the young. Birth controllers don't distribute knowledge to the young: the methods taught at our clinic, for instance, *can't be used* by a virgin girl.

But, even if the young *were* being reached, what law could be devised that would not equally interfere with *all* literature on the subject?

Is Sir John Robertson paid out of public funds to plot against free speech, as well as to intrigue against birth control?

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This unique concentration of Nature's most nourishing foods abundantly supplies those essential food elements which build up reserves of strength and vitality and give protection against the results of exposure to cold and rain.

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The larger sized tins are more economical to purchase.

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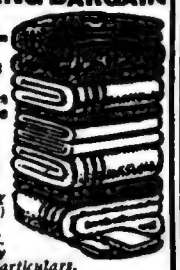

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DOES your skin get rough and irritable this time of the year? Are you distressed by outbreaks of pimples, irritating rashes and blotches? Have you patches of eczema or any old-standing ulcer that has defied ordinary treatment? A dressing with Zam-Buk daily will soon put you right.

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This famous herbal balm quickly invigorates the tissues and cleanses them of all Winter impurities. Zam-Buk quickly soothes pain and irritation. It is the one external medicine that can be depended upon to get right to the root of the trouble. It kills all harmful germs and grows fine, new, healthy skin.

The reason for Zam-Buk's magic healing power is its rare herbal character and freedom from animal fats and coarse, mineral drugs.

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"For eighteen months my daughter Sybil had dry eczema on her arms and legs," says Mrs. V. Jackson, of 134, West Worsley Street, Salford. "The disease started in small spots and rapidly spread. The itching was awful and she couldn't help scratching the fiery, irritating places.

"On reading about Zam-Buk I bought some and at night I used plenty of the balm on Sybil's arms and legs. The skin was less fiery the next day. We kept on with Zam-Buk which soon put an end to the irritation and grew clear and healthy skin once more."

Zam-Buk

THE WORLD'S GREATEST HEALER

Zam-Buk is quite different from ordinary ointments. It is the proved remedy for cuts, bruises, burns, scalds, eczema, bad legs, ulcers, piles, ringworm, scurf, dandruff, and all such affections, poisoned sores, children's skin troubles, &c. 1/3 a box and 3/- family size. Zam-Buk Medicinal Soap, 1/- per tablet.

Human Documents

Driven to Desperation

A Wicked Ingrate—Friendship Tested—Mad Superstition

"I HAVE been married four years and have one child, a boy, whom I love more dearly than anything on earth. My great desire is that he shall grow up to honour his mother, even if he must despise his father; but as things are at present I am ashamed of myself.

"Largely owing to bad home influences I was a very foolish girl before I was married, and I was living a loose life when I met my husband.

"A wicked woman had taken me to her house, given me money and fine clothes, and indicated the way in which I could obtain the means to repay her.

"My husband was one of my visitors. He seemed a little ashamed of the part he played in our vile transaction, and after a time he pleaded with me to give up the life I was leading and marry him.

"He told me that he had been a foolish spendthrift and had squandered all his money on women and wine, but as I had saved a couple of hundred pounds, I gladly furnished the home and married him.

"For a few weeks he kept me well supplied with money, but my happiness was very short lived. It was not long before he practically threw himself out of work and I made the discovery that he expected me to keep him, even if it was necessary to prostitute myself.

"I tried—oh, how I tried!—to keep straight, and when my savings were exhausted I went to work in a factory for 30s. a week.

"No one, except those who have been through the same terrible experience, can realise what a struggle it was for me to live honestly with a brute of a husband urging me all the time to go on to the streets to provide him with money to spend in idleness and dissipation.

"A BABY was born to us, and I hoped that his feeling as a father would change his conduct as a husband, but I was sadly disappointed. Long before the little one was weaned, he had beaten me black and blue, and, what hurt me more than his blows, he called me by a bad name and brutally told me to live up, or rather down, to it.

"At last I obtained a separation order, but he never paid me any maintenance, and in a weak moment I allowed him to return to me.

"I prayed that he would live a decent life and allow me to do the same, but, to cut a long and horrible story short, he forced me back on to the streets.

"I think my husband must be a maniac. Though I have sold myself to many men, not one of them has even ill-used me so shamefully as he has done. The castle I built in my dreams has tumbled about my ears, and I have finally left him and am living alone with my baby boy.

"Still, I am not free of him. I have not been able to get any work, and so I have had to do what thousands of other poor girls have done in order to keep a roof over my head. God knows what the end will be.

"The worst trouble is that my scoundrel of a husband still hangs round and forces me by threats to give him money. I am terrified of him, but what is worse is that my little boy is beginning to notice things.

"I would give anything to be able to get away from this horrible city and go somewhere where I can live quietly with my little one, but I cannot get work and I am afraid there is not much hope of my being able to obtain maintenance from my wretch of a husband.

"Do, please, advise me what to do, for I feel like taking my baby with me into a world where there may be more peace and happiness than I have known in this."

PROBLEMS that may be yours are dealt with by "Humanist." In every case the name and address of the writer are suppressed so that the authors may not be identified. In cases that are too intimate or are not of sufficient interest to be helpful to others, correspondents must send stamped addressed envelopes if they wish to be answered by post. Ten shillings is being sent to each of the writers of the first three letters printed.

"HUMANIST" says: *You should go at once to the police and lay information on which your husband could be prosecuted for his repulsively horrible crime of forcing you into prostitution and living upon your immoral earnings. You may rest assured that the police court missionary will arrange matters so that you may be able to live honestly and forget, if it be possible, the terrible nightmare of your married life.*

* * *

Nursing a Serpent

"NEARLY twenty years ago a woman came begging at the door of my wagon. She was in a terribly distressed and bedraggled condition. She had two children with her and it was obvious that a third was near at hand.

"My husband and I, who were travelling the country selling goods, took pity upon her and invited her into our wagon. We made her some tea and almost immediately afterwards a baby was born.

We made her comfortable for a few weeks, until she seemed fit to continue her journey. She repaid us by stealing a quantity of my clothes and running away, leaving the baby in bed.

"Some months later the woman reappeared and wanted to claim her baby. I sent for the police and before many witnesses in our camp the woman signed a sheet of notepaper handing the child over to me for adoption.

"A few months ago my husband died, and immediately this youth started to try to play the part of master of the caravan. He refuses to work, but comes back at intervals for his meals.

"In spite of all I have done for this youth from his infancy, I have simply no control over him whatever. The money which I have saved is almost exhausted, and I find that I shall have to work very hard indeed to keep myself.

"Will you please advise me what to do. Can I claim any support from him, or am I compelled to keep the rascal?"

"HUMANIST" says: *You seem to have nourished a serpent. You cannot claim any support from this ingrate, but you cannot be compelled to feed and clothe him, and seeing how badly he is behaving, I should advise you to seek the assistance of the police in getting rid of him.*

An Anonymous Samaritan

JUST as we go to Press we have received from an anonymous reader the generous donation of £200 to be paid in equal shares to two cases of hardship mentioned in our columns under the respective headings of "Dragged Down by Drugs," and "Detour of the Debt." A full statement will be made in our next issue. Meanwhile we have taken steps towards relieving the immediate distress of the recipients.

Should a Friend Fell?

"MY friend and I were boon companions before the war. We served together in France and now in peace time we are still very intimate, though our ways have taken us somewhat apart.

"He is married but has no children, and as his work takes him away from home for long periods at a time, his wife is often left to follow her own devices, and no doubt at times she feels very lonely.

"Unfortunately, she has taken to going out a good deal with some girl friends, and I can foresee trouble, for they are not fit companions for her, one of them to my certain knowledge being of very loose morals.

"I dread the end of it all if my chum's wife continues this association, and I would do anything rather than see both their lives spoilt, but I do not know what course to take.

"I think my pal would respect my confidence if I told him of my fears, but I cannot bring myself to break the ice, and I would not like to give him offence and lose his friendship after all these years. Please advise me."

"HUMANIST" says: *Friendship is of little value if it cannot be relied upon to give warning of such a disaster as you foresee, and if you have genuine ground for the anxiety which you feel, I am sure your friend would appreciate your desire to save him from suffering if you made him acquainted with the danger into which his wife is drifting.*

* * *

Politeness Pays

"Some time ago I undertook a correspondence course, to be paid for by monthly instalments, but after a time I found myself unable to continue, and said so. I am still being pestered to pay the fees. Am I justified in ignoring these demands?"

"Humanist" says:—*If you agreed to take the whole course you are probably liable for the full amount, and it is very unwise of you to ignore requests for payment. Mere courtesy requires you to acquaint the firm with your altered circumstances and ask them if they will kindly release you from your obligation.*

Mischievous Fortune-telling

"A few weeks ago my sweetheart's mother went to a crystal-gazer who told her that her daughter would marry a rich American. She is very superstitious, and as I am only a collier she insists that our engagement must be broken so that her daughter can wait for the rich man. My girl is very upset. What can we do?"

"Humanist" says:—*Stick to your girl, and report the matter to the police, who will, if they have sufficient evidence, prosecute the crystal-gazer for pretending to tell fortunes. Such pests should be sent to prison.*

When in Doubt

"I am deeply attached to a girl whom I have long wished to marry, but the wedding has had to be postponed owing to a series of misfortunes which have befallen me. The girl does not want to break the engagement, but she has shown such a lack of sympathy with me in my troubles that I am in doubt now whether it would be wise to marry her."

"Humanist" says: *Unless you have complete confidence in the girl it would obviously be unwise to marry her. You may be brooding too much over your troubles and under-rating her sympathy, but where in doubt there is only one possible word of advice—Don't.*

Do You own a dog?

Then, if only for his sake, you should read "Hints to Dog Owners." Containing 128 pages of sound, practical advice, it is a complete guide to the treatment of dogs in health and in sickness.

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A Stranglehold

Major Livingstone Oke, in his article, "Who Owns Britain?" says that millions who never owned a square foot of England fought for the right to live in crowded slums. The stranglehold of land monopoly is the main cause of the high cost of living, unemployment and fiery "Red" Socialism. Land is for growing crops, feeding sheep and cattle, etc., not to be left dormant or held up for speculation. —*J. L., Springburn.*

Owners and Holders

If the Government had the courage to bring in a Bill restricting land rents, like house rents, it would solve more than the unemployment problem. It would save the country. As to who owns Britain, well we know who holds it. After all, "the earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof" (not the landlords), and if the hymn is right which says: "We are His people," that should be sufficient to show that the land is for the people.—*J. H., Bolton.*

Perpetual Proprietorship

In patent law a man is given monopoly rights in his property for a term of sixteen years only; an author fares slightly better, but in neither case does he obtain rights in perpetuity. A landowner gets that perpetual proprietorship and, moreover, is entitled to steal all the improvements of any person working on his plot. In patent law the man who makes the improvements over a prior patent has the benefits—it should be so in land law. —*V. C. S., Sheffield.*

Slavery's Chains

Man is a land animal! He is ever dependent upon the land for his support. Therefore, whoever holds possession of the land controls the existence of the people. The non-owners of the land are virtually slaves to those who own it. Until these "land chains" are struck off all our best efforts towards progress are wasted energy.—*Landless, Edinburgh.*

Tyrannous Extortion

The whole history of the land may be summed up in three words—incompetence, tyranny and extortion. State tenancies and State farms are the only solution of the difficulty. Nothing else will secure adequate supplies for the nation at fair prices, with good conditions for the producers and proper cultivation of the land.—*A. H., Grimsby.*

A Tonic for Agriculture

Thousands of acres suffer frequently from partial inundation owing to lack of drainage. Much of this land, if thoroughly drained, would be capable of cultivation, but such drainage must not be subjected to the prejudices or vagaries of individual landowners. Under State control, this long-needed reform would revitalise the agricultural industry, and, incidentally, provide employment for thousands of men.—*Grower, Jersey.*

Rationing the Land

The Government should make it possible for those brought up on the land to stay there by regulating the amount of land a person should possess. In a small country like ours with forty-six million people and over a million unemployed, something should be attempted to reduce the enormous amount of imported food and create a balance of exchange between those producing agricultural products and those producing manufactured goods.—*S. E. Lloyd, Brecon.*

Unpatriotic Shipowners

It is time that shipowners woke up to the fact that there are thousands of British sailors and firemen out of work, who would gladly replace the Arab seamen who seem to be preferred. They cannot plead that it is cheaper to employ Arabs, for the wages are regulated by the Sailors' and Firemen's Union.—*H. C., Sunderland.*

Food Council Flouted

No truer statement was ever penned than that in your leading article on the King's Speech, in which you say that "the Food Council is being openly laughed at." When we remember that a man like Lord Bradbury is the chairman of the council, it seems extraordinary that he should allow his efforts to be wasted. The Food Council decided that a cheaper loaf was possible, and that the price should be regulated by the cost of flour. Immediately the price of flour was raised. Could there be a more contemptuous flouting of the council?—*Bewildered, London, N.*

Overweight Profiteering

While the Food Council criticise short-weight traders, they might also censure the overweight ones. The grocer who sells you 17½ ozs. of ham when you ask for a pound, and rapidly calculates it is a few pence more is almost as big an offender as the short-weight merchant. These pennies over are a relic of war-time profiteering.—*W. B., Darwen.*

Leasehold Cruelty.

The leasehold system is not only hard on the big man, but is positively cruel to the small. I know a case of a master-man decorator who had a yard and workshop, which he had himself constructed, attached to his house at £50 rental. The freeholder, when the lease expired, refused to extend it except at £100 per annum, and for only three years. Thus for what he had himself created, he was compelled to pay 100 per cent. increase, with no prospect of permanency. —*A. G. R., Deptford.*

Printers' Pie

(Half-a-crown is paid to the sender of every item published. Mark envelopes "Pie.")

"ALDINE NOVELS":—"In speaking I so manœuvred my body that it was between MYSELF and the priest."

"NEWARK ADVERTISER":—"Sale: Bookcase with sliding doors, 4 MAHOGANY hair-seat chairs in OAK, with adjustable backs."

"THE DOG DOCTOR":—"He is LONG haired, with SHORT hair, and small feet, and is short in the body."

"ORKNEY HERALD":—"With her HEAD in his, he fell asleep and slept a sweet, healing sleep."

"DAILY EXPRESS":—"Viscountess Astor had beautiful pearls with a WHITE JET frock."

"ABERDEEN EVENING EXPRESS":—"REFRIGERATING machinery will be installed for the supply of HOT air."

A Puzzling Question

In my district over £800 is being asked for to provide a "garden of remembrance" as a war memorial. A better plan would surely be to build a cottage hospital or nurses' home. I have just bought a packet of needles and a comb from an ex-Service man trying to eke out a small pension. If this "memorial garden" plan is carried out, he and others can sit and ponder on what they did "out there" and wonder for what they did it.—*J. A. P., Rawdon.*

Victims of Disease

At present, in the industrial districts of Durham, there are serious outbreaks of smallpox. Medical officers are giving lectures on the advantages of vaccination. The places which are hardest hit in the trade depression are the first districts to be attacked, not only by smallpox, but by other complaints, which suggests that under-nourished bodies cannot resist these diseases.—*C. W., Lancs.*

The Children's Charter

What has become of "The Illegitimacy Bill"? When first the present Parliament assembled, the King's Speech contained a promise that this reform would be taken up as a Government measure but nothing has been heard of it since. Now we find it has been entirely omitted from the latest Governmental programme. It is a scandal that this legislation, together with a drastic reformation of the existing divorce and separation laws, has not long since been effected.—*Harding-Cox (Major), Newick, Sussex.*

A Real Test

We are informed that Viscount Deerhurst has laid 1,000 bricks in a day. It would have been more of a test if he had laid, say, 22,000 bricks in a month, or 263,000 bricks in a year, reckoning five and a half days per week. Will the viscount take on this job for one year and then report?—*A. W., Garston.*

Exchanges Ignored

As all who have followed insured trades are compelled to "sign on" at employment exchanges, could not a Bill be framed compelling employers of insured workers to draw fresh labour from the exchanges? In plain words, no employer should be allowed to advertise a vacancy where the wage is under, say, £3 10s. per week, until the local exchange is satisfied it cannot meet his needs.—*R. W., Lee.*

Pampered Parasites

Illustrated papers have lately shown us pictures of hairdressers at work on canine clients. No expense is spared. The food and attention lavished would realise for a poor slum child its dreams of Paradise. Farmers, sportsmen and others make proper use of dogs, but these pets should be heavily taxed; they are nothing but parasites.—*L. D., Havant.*

Dangerous Lunatics

People who go about the country declaring that an industrial war in May is inevitable should be put under restraint. Surely there is a solution to the coal problem, and this will have to be found. A round-table conference, conducted with common sense, and all the cards laid openly on the table, is all that is needed. Miners, as a class, are not unreasonable; but the fact remains that a reduction in the present rates of pay would mean starvation for thousands of them and their families.—*J. W H., Notts.*

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Radio Talks.

Photographs through the Air

by Professor A. M. LOW, Fellow of the Radio Association

CONSIDERABLE advance has taken place in the art of transmitting photographs by wireless. Some years ago it was quite possible to transmit a picture of President Coolidge from New York to London. Reception was complete within five minutes of the exposure being made in America.

The detail work of such pictures is now greatly improved, and it is only a matter of time before such events as the visits of the Prince of Wales to our dependencies will be illustrated in the next morning's papers in London.

* * *

I do not think it can be said that broadcast plays are the most successful part of our programmes. They are too often painfully reminiscent of a film scenario. It is almost impossible to give the effect of *reality* without the use of more than one of our senses of observation.

Unless a play is interesting from the book, and can be appreciated from the words alone, no amount of effects and rustling of stones for the imitation of sea can render a shipwreck anything but amusing.

* * *

There have been several wireless prosecutions of late in connection with radio pirates who will not pay their licence. The Wireless League, which looks after the interests of the listener, has no sympathy with these "dodgers."

The league demands *good programmes* and good wireless service, but its members are not afraid to pay for the cheapest entertainment in the world.

Among recent discoveries is a method of obtaining amplification by oscillating crystals. The circuit is hardly such as to interest the average listener, but it suggests that in the far future our battery, valve and other troubles may be eliminated. It is quite possible to-day to transmit and receive without the use of a valve. An arc lamp was one of the earliest forms of wireless sending apparatus.

* * *

The fact that a crystal and telephones without any amplifying gear are capable of providing excellent results of unsurpassed purity has led some people to neglect proper care of the crystal itself. It is so simple in action that attention seems unnecessary.

Crystals should always be kept protected from the air, damp and dust. When the "whisker" is constantly moved over the surface of the crystal it is not a difficult matter to wear out the sensitive spots.

* * *

Many complaints are being heard from the Midlands in towns where relay stations are likely to be removed. Listeners need have no fear. The B.B.C. policy of erecting larger stations, with fewer relay headquarters, will eventually give them a better choice of programmes, and less trouble from outside interference.

It is quite true that distance as well as power comes into the question, and with the type of set that has no power of selection whatsoever interferences from electrical machinery might be slightly worse in the case of crystal-users living in large cities.

STRIKING TESTIMONY!

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"Within five minutes of unpacking and wiring the GECoPHONE Crystal Set I got both Bournemouth and Cardiff with surprising ease, and the clearness of the reception was quite as good as I have obtained from my former 2-valve Set."

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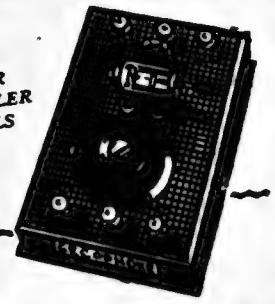

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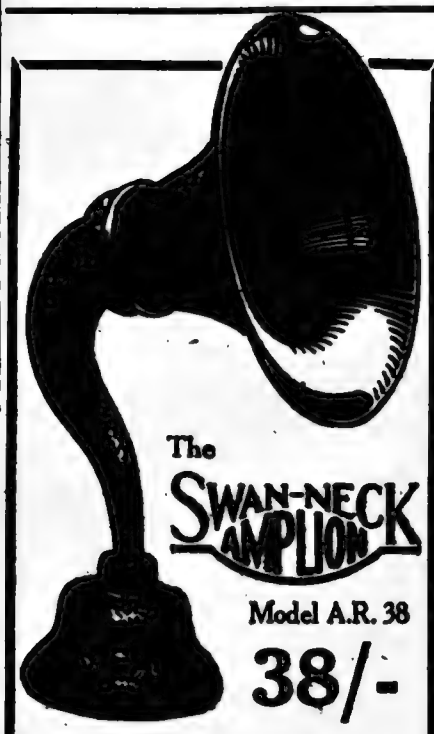

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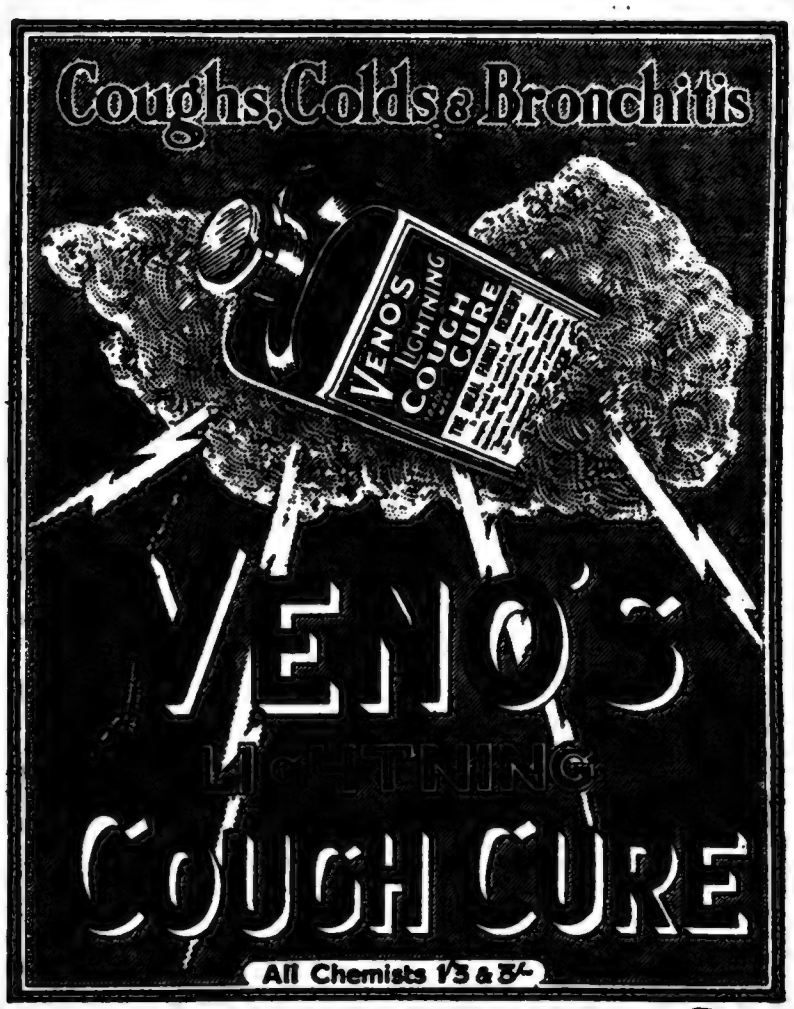

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Jack Anthony's Aintree Mount

Last Year's First or Second?—A Pointer for the Wise—Lincoln Doubtfuls—Coram Panic—A Very Murky Past—Code Winners

A FEW weeks ago I warned backers not to pay too much attention to the rumours in circulation concerning Grand National horses, particularly in regard to Double Chance, who was reported lame. My warning has been justified; Double Chance is very much alive, and it is a toss-up whether Jack Anthony will ride F. Archer's gelding or my selection, Old Tay Bridge.

Jack Anthony's Aintree Record

Anthony has already won the National on three occasions, and last year he was second on Old Tay Bridge. If he decides to forsake Frank Hartigan's 'chaser in favour of the winner of 1925, it is an obvious pointer and Double Chance should be saved on.

Jack Anthony, who hopes to win his fourth National

Sticking to Old Tay Bridge

I am still of the opinion that Old Tay Bridge is a sound each-way investment, but I shall not be amazed if the result is the same as last year—Double Chance first, Old Tay Bridge second.

The Lincoln Doubtfuls

Dame Rumour has also attacked with both feet two of the Lincoln favourites—my selection Coram and Mr. Solly Joel's Pasha—and, as a result, both have gone out in the betting. The best comment I can make on this subject is to refer you to the little verse in column three. Mr. Solly Joel's Soranus went out from 8 to 1 to 66 to 1 and won with his head in his chest. The S.P. was 28 to 1. Tapin lengthened from 8 to 1 to 40 to 1, and cantered home first just as easily as Soranus. The Frenchman's starting price was nines.

Coram Panic

According to my French correspondent, the panic about Coram is being overdone. The horse is not progressing as the connections wished, but that is mainly because of the lack of anything in the small stable sheltering him good enough with which to gallop him.

A Stable Companion Coming

A stable companion is now on the way from France, and Coram will get to work seriously within the next few days. He will most likely accept for the Newbury Spring Cup which has before now proved a consolation prize for Carholme failures, but in any case he goes to Lincoln, and the chances are he will be fit enough.

Fancied Non-runners

A stay-at-home-backer tells me that looking through the tell-tale table which shows how the nap selections of the well-known Turf prophets have fared, he noticed that nearly half of the naps of one popular writer had not come under the starter's orders. As most of them were obvious favourites, granted a run, he wants me to shed a little light on "fancied" non-runners.

Trainers will not be Forestalled

The state of the going, which has been the worst known for over twenty years, is the principal cause, Stay-at-home Backer, but there are often other reasons. Sometimes a trainer cannot obtain the services of the jockey he requires, but, more important still, an owner or trainer who has planned a coup finds that his secret is out and that money is coming for his horse via "the blower." As he is unable to obtain what he considers a fair price he withdraws his horse for a plunge on another occasion.

Races Named After Famous Horses

The Lingfield executive struck a novel note in naming several of their races after famous racehorses. The Troytown 'Chase, Manifesto 'Chase and Cloister 'Chase embraced three Grand National winners. I am afraid not one of the competitors in these events could compare with the old-timers. The Trespasser Handicap Hurdle Race paid tribute to J. M. Bell's famous two-miler. I spotted Vaudricourt at the meeting as a likely winner before the jumping season ends. Piggott's gelding pecked at the last hurdle, otherwise he might have won instead of finishing third to Greenhorn.

A Very Murky Past

Murky Past, who beat the hot-pot, Tamasha, at Leicester, by a short head over three miles, is a useful stayer and a good each-way investment every time he runs. In 1924 Murky Past took part in a race named the Elvaston 'Chase at Nottingham, fell, and was reported in all the daily newspapers as dead. A week later he turned up at Derby and ran second in their Elvaston 'Chase. Not bad for a corpse. The gelding is well named, being by Book—out of Scapegoat.

Town Guard's Owner Plans a Raid

Senor S. J. Unzue has always had a certain amount of association with English racing, but lately has kept out of it. I understand he is about to resume his association and is going to the length of installing one of his old Argentine trainers in England to look after a string that will be increased gradually until this wealthy owner-breeder has as great an interest in the game here as he has in France. He has Town Guard at the stud and counts on one day running the progeny of that unlucky animal over here.

Giving the Layers Another Chance

The French Government is now considering the advisability of restoring bookmakers to their former legal position, and if the Bill passes, the position will be that bookmakers who do exist in spite of the ban on them will be able to act as agents for the Pari-Mutuel or will be allowed to compete with it in return for a licence duty. The new move is due to realisation of the fact that the ban cannot be enforced.

Loyal Scot My Windsor Nap

Loyal Scot was a nice winner for the code selections at Windsor on the last day of the meeting, but considering that not one Turf writer tipped the horse with the exception of myself, the price, 5 to 2, was disappointing. As I mentioned recently, now that Frank Hartigan is back from the south of France we can expect a number of winners from Weyhill. I hope Old Tay Bridge does the trick for him.

FOR YOUR NOTEBOOK

Jack Horner, one of my code winners at Windsor, will most likely be ridden by W. Watkinson in the National. Watkinson knows the Liverpool course. He finished second on Drifter in 1922.

Four Poster, my second selection at Windsor on the opening day, failed by a neck to land a 17 to 1 double. Sir E. Wills' horse will pop up at a nice price in due course.

Loyal Scot, 5 to 2, and Tom Pinch, 9 to 2, were code winners on Thursday and Friday. Tom Pinch was in a generous mood.

Truthful James, who dead-heated with Halberdier at Leicester, has been mentioned in these notes as one to follow on three or four occasions. The gelding will go on improving.

Snow Crest, another to follow, also obliged last week at 5 to 1. This mare gave the champion young hurdler, Blaris, a good race early on in the season.

Noble Birth was the unluckiest loser I saw at Lingfield. The gelding would probably have beaten Arduous and Foxtrot but for the fact that Capt. Dennis lost an iron. Should be backed next time out.

TAKE WARNING

According to some humorists
A certain sign of Spring
Is when our friends the Rumorists
Commence to chirp and sing.

Before the cuckoo's voice is heard
Their wails reach to the skies,
So give the Rumour-birds "the bird"
And show that you are wise.

Tell 'em you've heard that tale before
And steer clear of their toils.
Think of Soranus, lame and sore!
Remember Tapin's boils!

"SILVER RING."

Two coded selections will be given daily in the following papers:

Sporting Life and Sportsman, Chronicle Mid-day, Sporting Pink, Western Mail, Glasgow Noon Record, Irish Independent, Sporting Man, The Sheffield Mail.

A 2 M H R Y J T P D X C V S

L F U E N B K W I Z O 3 G Q

How to read the code: in place of the letters or figures advertised in the daily papers read those above or below the line as the case may be.

KL3JEXNRHN would read JACK HORNER.

This code will be changed in next week's JOHN BULL. It covers the racing from Wednesday, February 24, to Tuesday, March 2.

"Soccer"

WEEK-END COUPS.

6 HOME.—Bury, Huddersfield, Sheffield U., Nelson, New Brighton, Raith R.

5 HOME.—Everton, West Bromwich, Barnsley, Aberdare, Millwall.

4 HOME.—Bury, Port Vale, Brighton, Raith R.

3 AWAY.—Swansea, Chesterfield, Falkirk.

3 DRAWS.—Hull v. Preston, Wrexham v. Halifax, Dundee v. Glasgow Rangers.

3 HOME, 2 AWAY.—Sheffield U., Nelson, New Brighton, Swansea, Grimsby.

1 HOME, 1 AWAY, 1 DRAW.—Bury, Swansea, Hearts v. Celtic.

WAS IT PLACED LAST TIME OUT?

"The Sporting Life and Sportsman"

SUMMARY OF PAST RACING

will tell you at a glance.

2/6. At all Newsagents. 2/6.

Selections

FORECASTS FOR MARCH 6.

THE LEAGUE.—DIVISION I.

HOME WINNERS.—Leeds, Liverpool.

AWAY WINNER.—West Bromwich.

DRAWS.—Leicester v. Birmingham, Newcastle v. Huddersfield.

THE LEAGUE.—DIVISION II.

HOME WINNERS.—Portsmouth, Middlesbrough, Oldham, Preston.

AWAY WINNER.—Derby.

DRAW.—Stockport v. Port Vale.

THE LEAGUE.—DIVISION III. (Northern).

HOME WINNERS.—Accrington, Bradford, Chesterfield, Grimsby, Halifax, Rochdale, Rotherham.

AWAY WINNERS.—Ashington, Nelson.

DRAWS.—Durham v. Coventry, Wallsall v. Wigan.

THE LEAGUE.—DIVISION III. (Southern).

HOME WINNERS.—Bournemouth, Bristol R., Gillingham, Newport, Reading, Swindon.

AWAY WINNER.—Brighton.

DRAW.—Luton v. Aberdare.

SCOTTISH LEAGUE.

HOME WINNERS.—Hibs., Dundee United.

ESTABLISHED 29 YEARS

WHITE, FISHER & CO.

144m, WEST REGENT ST., GLASGOW.

FOOTBALL

INSURE YOUR WINNINGS BY BECOMING A "WHITEFISHERITE"

7 LEAGUES 6 LISTS

NOTHING BARRED.

AGENTS WANTED EVERYWHERE

Applicants from London & Districts can call, write or 'phone Gerrard 2512

SCEPTRE HOUSE,
169-173, Regent Street, London.

RACING

No Limit. Weekly A/cs.

We pay all postage.

ALWAYS AT YOUR SERVICE.

WE NEVER QUIBBLE.

BET WITH THE BIG TWO!

DAVID COPE

AND

ALF. H. MAURICE,

25, N. Albion St., Glasgow, C.1.

LINCOLN and NATIONAL

LETTER COMMISSIONS

NO LIMIT.

DAILY SETTLEMENTS

WINNINGS BY RETURN OF POST.

ALF. H. MAURICE,

THE

FOOTBALL Accountant,

19, BRIDE LANE, E.C.4.

Clients who win RECEIVE 20/- in the £ ! ! DO YOU?

LET SAFETY FIRST be your Motto and BET WITH ME.

Apply at once for

CHALLENGER CREDIT COUPONS

Nothing Barred. Nothing Starred.

A Few Vacancies for Agents.

SENSATIONAL REDUCTIONS

IN PRICE AND EASY TERMS OF

CAMAGES POPULAR BICYCLES

YOUR OPPORTUNITY to secure, for the small outlay of 7/- Free Delivery of a thoroughly **Dependable Guaranteed ROADSTER MACHINE**, embodying the highest standard of workmanship throughout, and fitted with the world-famous **HOLBORN CORD TYRES.**

EASY TERMS 7/- Deposit. **CASH PRICE** £4 : 5s.

Balance in 12 Monthly Payments of 7/-. CARRIAGE PAID.

Don't delay till the Easter Rush begins. Send at once for *Full Particulars, List of 1926 Models, Photos of Machines.* Full Specification, and *Easy Terms Order Form,* Post Free per return.

A. W. CAMAGE, LTD., HOLBORN, LONDON, E.C.1.

And at **BENETFINKS, Cheapside, E.C.2.**

7/- DOWN

LESS THAN 3d. PER DAY!

(Mention "John Bull.")

Wonderful Hair Grower

Amazing Hair Growth on Bald Heads After Using Kotalko, the Genuine Hair-Grower. Not a Medicine. Rub on the Scalp where New Hair is desired.

Miss Mary Little, from a photo.

Was Quite Bald.

Gorton.

What Kotalko has done for me is nothing short of wonderful. Four years ago I lost all my hair.

My head was bare and shiny, just like the back of my hand. I had been under a hair specialist, and a doctor, but all in vain.

One day, on seeing your advertisement, I decided to try Kotalko, and I am simply delighted that I did so, for I now have a head of beautiful, curly, silk-like hair, which is admired by everyone. Kotalko has certainly proved itself a true hair-grower.—Yours gratefully, Mary Little.

Milk-White Baldness.

Nr. Farnham (Surrey).

My friends have watched the gradual change in my head from its state of milk-white baldness to its present wonderful thickness of hair. The growth did not start immediately; in fact, I had used nearly two tins before the first signs of renewed growth were to be seen. This was a great joy and almost a surprise to me, as I was beginning to wonder if the roots were dead. I used to apply Kotalko every day to the scalp until the hair grew all over my head in its natural brown colour and thick and curly as the photograph shows.

Mrs. N. O'Neill, from a photo.

The new growth of hair is the talk of my neighbours and friends. My grateful appreciation for your good advice, and wishing you every success to Kotalko.—Yours truly, (Mrs.) Nellie O'Neill.

A multitude of others, men and women, have used the remarkable compound—Kotalko—with astonishing and delightful benefit in removing scurf, stopping the falling out of hair, and in developing a new growth. This has been done in many cases where the baldness existed for years, and when many other hair tonics, lotions, medicinal treatments, etc., had been unsuccessfully tried.

100,000 TESTING BOXES

KOTALKO
TRUE HAIR GROWER

A distribution of 100,000 testing boxes is now being made to those who apply—only one box to one person—either sex. To obtain a box it will only be necessary to send threepence in stamps to the address below.

SEND OR COPY THIS COUPON

Please send me, post paid, Testing Box of KOTALKO with directions, for which I enclose 3d. in stamps.

Name.....

Address.....

..... 53 H.K.

JOHN HART BRITTAIN, Ltd., 2, Percy St. (53 H.K.) LONDON, W.1.

The PAPER that saves MONEY

By rolling your own cigarettes you save 3½d. in every shilling and get a better, fresher smoke. Use

ZIG-ZAG CIGARETTE PAPERS

"CLUB BLACK" ENAMEL.

For all Household Uses, Cycles, Motors, etc.

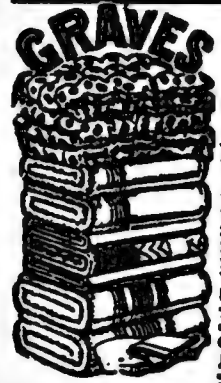
DRIES IN 20 MINUTES.

In two sizes, 6d. and 1/-

From all Ironmongers, Stores, Cycle Agents and Garages, or direct from:—

SILICO ENAMEL CO., Warton Road, Stratford E.

WEEKLY
FREE RECORD OFFER
WRITE FOR LISTS
My free lists only want seeing, and you will not buy elsewhere. Small deposit gets any horn or hornless model by return on 14 Days' Approval, Pack & Free and Carriage Paid. Money refunded if dissatisfied. Write for free lists. I am one of the oldest advertisers in this paper.
the O'Brien
34 COVENTRY.



BARGAIN BEDDING BALE 10/- NOW

World's Finest Value. 1 pr All-Wool Blankets; 1 pr White Fleecy Blankets; 1 pr Unbleached Twill Sheets; 2 White Pillow Cases; 1 White Bolster Case; 1 Alhambra Quilt; 1 Lovely Wadded Quilt. All double bed size. £4 : 10 : 0

Terms to approved orders:—20/- now, balance 20/- monthly. Catalogue Post Free.

J. G. GRAVES LTD. SHEFFIELD

100,000 Rugs

GIVEN AWAY.

This Phenomenal Offer is made to the readers of "John Bull," 27/2/26. On receipt of Postal Order for 12/6 we will forward direct from our Looms to your address one of our "Prudential" Brussels

Real Seamless Woven Guaranteed Genuine Bargains

Carriage 1/- extra.

Suitable for Drawing-room, Dining-room, Bedroom, etc., handsomely bordered in thirty Turkey patterns & fashionable colourings of Crimson, Greens, Blues and Art Colourings, to suit all requirements and large enough to cover any ordinary sized room

CARPETS

12/6

These Carpets with FREE RUGS will be sent out as sample Carpets, showing you the identical quality we supply. They are made of material equal to wool, and being a speciality of our own, can only be obtained direct from our Looms, thus saving the purchaser all middle profits. Over 400,000 sold during the past 12 months. Money willingly returned if not approved. Thousands of Repeat Orders and Unsolicited Testimonials received. With every carpet we shall absolutely give away a very handsome rug to match. Gigantic Illustrated Bargain Catalogue of Carpets, Hearthrugs, Bedsteads, Bedding, Table Linens, Curtains, etc., post free, mentioning "John Bull," 27/2/26, when writing. Established over Half a Century.

F. HODGSON & SONS (Dept. J.B.) Woodsley Rd. City of Leeds.

John Bull Replies

THE Editor may be flippant on this page, but his humour is kindly and never malicious. He likes to end up the week's work on a bright note. Serious questions are handled by the expert staff of our Free Advice Service.

QUESTIONS concerning pensions, and the many intricate details connected therewith, are specially dealt with by our Pensions Expert, who is capable of giving the best advice it is possible to obtain.

To be informed of the proper way to proceed, send stamped addressed envelope, with particulars.

Readers are also invited to send questions on any other matter on which they desire to have advice.

W. W. (East Finchley).—"Flowers can be grown by electric light." So can wild oats.

E. N. (Dublin).—"Who lives the longest, a lion or a man?" A man, provided he can also run the fastest.

BESSIE (Portsmouth).—"Do you believe that every sailor has a 'wife in every port'?" No, the man isn't born who dare brave so many mothers-in-law.

LAURA (Golders Green).—"I want a useful dress for a very small gathering." Linseed meal or a bread poultice is the usual idea.

J. W. (Stirling).—"Before marriage I thought my wife was an angel." And now you wish she was one.

M. B. (Shoreditch).—"I say the whole article was intended as a bad shot at me." We say your letter proves it hit you.

MISS F. (Chorley).—"I dreamed last night I was submitting work to the most brilliant editor in London." We trust we rejected it with our usual courtesy.

MRS. B. (Leeds).—"I am sure I have a very able mind for business." Then you should be able to mind your own business.

MRS. K. (Parsons Green).—"I talk many long hours to the suffering poor." That's why they're suffering.

BESSIE (Otley).—"I'll marry him if he will give up all his bad habits." But could you love such a perfect stranger?

L. M. (Lancaster).—"I'm in love with a very eligible widow, but I fear she won't consider me for a minute." Ask her if she'll consider you for a second.

MRS. W. (Margate).—"My lodger won't pay up because he says I keep the room cold." Make it hot for him.

PERCY (York).—"I am sending you a few very pertinent queries." They appear to have become very impertinent in transit.

MRS. E. (Wigan).—"I see women are taking up the law." Most women we see are laying it down.

MISS S. (Richmond).—"I suppose you wouldn't give me away if I married?" We wouldn't breathe a word.

DORIS (Tamworth).—"I have been an operator on fourteen different exchanges." Even that is the wrong number, we'll wager.

L. W. (Hampstead).—"I have vowed to move heaven and earth in order to learn golf." We suppose you have only heaven to deal with by now.

L. D. (Hammersmith).—"My fiancée offered me a penny for my thoughts." And you accepted, you robber!

F. M. (Chenies).—"Money is power." In the hands of some people it soon becomes a spent force.

AUTHOR (Sudbury).—"You'll notice that half-way through my story the plot thickens." That should prevent it leaking out.

G. J. (Chorley).—"Our new maid seems to spend most of her time making-up." She must be a cosmetic domestic.

W. F. (Nuneaton).—"I'm putting on flesh too fast. What can I do?" Without.

A. L. (Bedford).—"Love is blind." Yes, but marriage opens its eyes.

H. T. (London, W.)—"A theatre manager has to go very carefully in these days of fierce competition." Yes, and mind his piece and queues.

O. N. (Hamilton).—"How can I secure a saxophone-player?" To be on the safe side you should tie his hands behind his back and gag him.

A. R. (Dunedin).—"To get on in this world you must have a will." Or be mentioned in somebody else's.

H. M. B. (Folkestone).—"How little men understand women!" They don't—any more than big ones.

A. N. (Hove).—"I think you'll agree with me when I say I write letters full of punch." There are certainly plenty of big black I's.

G. N. V. (Edmonton).—"Confidence men are very persevering." They never put off until to-morrow anyone they can do to-day.

J. N. (Mitcham).—"A new invention enables people to be wakened by wireless." The reverse process is already accomplished by the talks.

P. L. T. (Swindon).—"Parliament is sitting." Let's hope it hatches out something.

N. B. G. (Margate).—"I am a successful man." We always said that initials never meant anything.

G. M. (Islington).—"Women are taking up dentistry as a profession." But, as it is, many a woman gets on a man's nerves.

S. H. (Hampstead).—"My husband's temper gets worse." You're lucky. Some husbands' tempers couldn't.

T. M. (Settle).—"He claims he is related to me." Rather sporting of him to admit it.

G. L. (Crowle).—"I've just had 'flu .... and my savings have flown." That £1,000 *Bullets* First Prize would put you on your feet again.

B. N. (Bradford).—"I always weigh my words." You didn't on this occasion. We had to pay extra postage on your letter.

G. K. (Hilltop).—"Women will wear corsets as long as they are women." Judging by appearances, that won't be much longer.

G. J. (Tottenham).—"I first met my husband when he was learning to roller-skate." So that's how he fell for you.

INTERESTED (Balham).—"A scientist has discovered a ray which represents 6,000,000,000,000,000,000,000 vibrations per second." We hear he made the discovery after having a lift in his friend's Ford.

All's Well!

THE sun doesn't shine,
But most people are smiling;
Although it's not fine,
Very few are reviling.

From skies that are drear
Snow and hail may be hurled,
But folk show good cheer,
For Friday is here.

And time they're beguiling,
The *Passing Show's* out,
So there isn't a doubt
All's right with the world!

THE SHOWMAN.

T. P. (Guildford).—"I am a fine singer and I have had an exquisite gramophone record made of one of my most charming solos." Oh, drop it!

C. L. (Highgate).—"My husband is content to stay at home and listen-in." Does he get 2LO from London or just L from you?

B. L. (Ramsgate).—"Three husbands in this street have run away to London." What are the wild wives saying?

D. S. (Barmouth).—"What would a film actor be without his fine clothes?" Cold.

L. R. (Windsor).—"You may think this letter is all rot." We gladly take advantage of your permission.

S. L. (Clapham).—"He and the auctioneer came to blows." And which one was knocked down?

T. K. (Dorking).—"I hope you are feeling A1." We trust UR2.

L. F. E. (Camberley).—"I'm afraid I worry too much about my work." That's a pity. Get your mind on your business, but don't let your business get on your mind.

E. Z. C. (Catford).—"Would you like to read my new poem, 'Spring in the Air.'"? No—we're afraid it would give us the jumps.

P. P. (Hastings).—"Can a man love too much?" No. Too many.

V. H. (Hampstead).—"Have you heard that we shall shortly get heat by wireless?" Then we may expect some genuine heat-waves at last.

A. D. (Birmingham).—"Our doctor and the chemist had a regular quarrel over a prescription." And did the chemist refuse to make it up?

O. C. J. (Andover).—"I hope my wretched luck is on the turn." But, from what you say, it seems to be rotten already.

JENNY C. (Lewisham).—"I mean to engage myself to a man who is determined to get on." As determined, in fact, as you are to get off.

W. J. W. (Richmond).—"At any rate, I have a wife who can't be beaten." We sincerely hope you haven't tried.

MRS. H. (Finsbury Park).—"I can't make out why my teeth are all going." We suppose it's because they can't be stopped.

G. H. (Brixton).—"Where does the first cuckoo usually turn up?" In a "letter to the editor," written by a liar.

H. C. F. (Primrose Hill).—"My little boy will steal sugar, for which he seems to have a perfect mania." Have you gently suggested to him its association with cane?

MRS. G. (Acton).—"What can married women do to get more warmth and brightness into their lives?" Write to the gas company about it.

F. M. (Finchley).—"I saw you twice in Long Acre." We never noticed anyone in that condition.

F. D. (Watford).—"Why do men whose first venture proved disastrous invariably marry again?" Because the trap's baited differently.

MRS. M. (Daisyfield).—"We shall kill a turkey for our silver wedding." Why take it out of the poor bird for what happened five-and-twenty years ago?

G. G. (Cardiff).—"Evil communications corrupt good manners." They often provoke very bad language in this office.

G. P. (Ealing).—"Is making money in the Mint hard work?" If making it first is like making it last it must be.

MRS. H. (Hackney Wick).—"It isn't yet possible to buy wrapped bread in all districts." Nonsense. Sausages are sold everywhere.

S. D. (Colchester).—"What do you think of enclosed articles?" The way you folded them to fit the envelopes exactly is very clever.

M. N. (Swansea).—"I find it very hard to meet expenses." You're lucky. We're always meeting them.

MRS. C. (Bursiem).—"The doctor thinks I ought to go to a very warm climate." Tut, tut. Tell him his duty is to save you from it.

J. W. (Kendal).—"There's nothing wrong with the rising generation." When it does rise, but it's when it doesn't that it causes trouble.

H. H. C. (Westcliff-on-Sea).—"I should like to pulverise my neighbour's gramophone and everything connected with it." If you had your way, your angry violence would evidently break all records.

(Many replies unavoidably held over.)

"Bullets" 5s Prize-winners

(Continued from page 6)

Mrs. F. H. Patten, 97, Quadrant Rd., Bridgwater.
A. J. Fowler, 2, The Avenue, Sherborne.
F. W. Read, 11, Lenner St., Nottingham.
Miss E. Read, 14, Westbourne Gdns., Bayswater.
F. Rendle, 31a, High St., Sydenham, S.E.
H. P. Rendle, 6th, Strand, London, W.C.
J. L. Reynolds, 6th, Strand, London, W.C.
R. Robinson, 29, New Swaddon St., Fairby.
Mrs. E. Rowland, 211, Cavendish Rd., Reading.
J. Russell, 58, Doran St., Belfast.
W. Shaw, 14, Shaftesbury Rd., Brighton.
J. L. Shepherd, 5, Stevens Rd., Lewisham, S.E.
J. Shipton, c/o 66, Chislehurst Pl., Bradford.
Miss Shuttard, 14, Villa Rd., Adwick, Doncaster.
R. Tyce, 6a, St. Clement's Hill, Norwich.
A. Weston, 39, Alexandra Rd., Wellingborough.
A. Whitton, 260, Manchester Rd., Swinton, Rochdale.
R. Wray, 37, Old Park Rd., Palmers Green, N.
A. J. Wharton, 2, Dalkeith Rd., Herne Hill, S.E.
W. Whittam, Jnr., c/o 61, Long Row, Norwich.
F. Wright, 222, Algernon Rd., Lewisham, S.E.

List of Five-Shilling Prize-winners in "Bullets" Competition No. 591 will be published in next week's "Competitors' Journal." Complete list of all Cash and other Prize-winners can be seen at the Offices of "JOHN BULL."

SPECIAL NEWSAGENTS' PRIZES.

Shares for £10, £5 and £2 respectively will be paid to the Newsagents from whom the winners of the First Three "Bullets" Prizes in Competition No. 594 have purchased their copies of "John Bull."

SELECTION OF EXAMPLES FOR "BULLETS" COMPETITION No. 595.

WIT OR LOGIC	FROM A BOY
FAMILY CIRCLE	SECOND TIME
WITH A SHUDDER	WHETHER OR NOT
BY HOOKE	SHOOTING
HEARD IN THE BUS	WIFE'S WAY
SOCIALLY	SEWED
LAW COSTS	TILL HE KNEW BETTER
WORDY WARFARE	FOLLOWING HORSES
WHAT THE PALMIST	SPOTTING
SAID	STAR TURN

WHAT IS THE TRUTH?

These Examples may be made use of on the Coupons on page 43, and must reach us on or before THURSDAY, MARCH 18. All Coupons so used MUST be marked clearly with the number 595 in the top left-hand corner, and envelopes containing these Coupons must be addressed "Bullets" No. 595, JOHN BULL, Long Acre, London, W.C.2. Such Coupons must not contain any of the Examples for Competition No. 594

The Completed Puzzle.

F	I	A	T		P	U	T	I	D		H	A	S	P
A	R	B	I	T	E	R		D	O	W	A	G	E	R
R	I	L	E		R	A	K	E	D		T	O	N	E
O	D	E		V	I	L	L	A	G	E		G	A	Y
		I	F		L	E	E		J	U	T			
C	U	B	I	C		A	P	T		B	A	C	O	N
A	M	E	N		A	T		W		C	A	R	E	
N		G	A	S	T	R	O	N	O	M	I	C		V
T	H	I	N		E	M		N		N	A	P	E	
O	U	N	C	E		H	A	Y		S	T	O	U	R
	S	E	A		N		M		H	E				
S	T	Y		S	T	A	I	N	E	S		P	R	Y
E	L	A	N		T	R	A	I	T		D	A	I	S
C	E	R	A	M	I	C		C	E	N	A	C	L	E
T	R	E	Y		C	H	E	E	R		B	E	E	R

Solution to the Cross-word puzzle published in our last issue. This week's cross-word puzzle is on page 6.

RIDE A CAPTAIN
LOWEST EASY TERMS

You can have the finest cycle built—a "CAPTAIN" and PACKED FREE and CARRIAGE PAID on 14 DAYS' FREE APPROVAL, for small deposit only. Money refunded if dissatisfied. Lifelong Guarantee. Write for FREE BARGAIN LISTS of 1926 models and EASY TERMS. WRITE NOW.

19 WEEKLY

H. FITZPATRICK
52, Captain Wks, Bromley

"JOHN BULL'S GUARANTEE."

EVERY article advertised in "John Bull" carries with it a "money-back" guarantee. All foods, food products, toilet preparations, medicines and drugs, and other articles capable of a laboratory test which have been approved by our experts are marked—

In the case of medicines and drugs we guarantee that if they are taken or applied according to the directions they will have no injurious effects.

Naturally this guarantee applies only to manufactured articles, but every care is taken to satisfy ourselves as to the bona-fides of all advertisements in "John Bull."

Any complaint must reach us within one month from the appearance of the advertisement in "John Bull," and in the case of dispute the decision of our Managing Director shall be final.

ODHAMS PRESS LTD., Proprietors of "John Bull."

DO YOU KNOW?
that you can obtain this £5-5-0 model for 59/6 (or 6/- monthly)

Daintiear
Worthy of the Occupant
from 1/6 per week

"During our January Sale we are authorised by the makers to supply a limited number of GENUINE DAINTICARS, some with Thick Cushion Tyres, at almost half the List Prices you would ordinarily pay in a shop. There are numerous models to choose from in this special advertising offer."

Prompt Delivery. Carriage Paid.

Don't delay, but write at once for Handsome Illustrated Catalogue.

VICTORIA CYCLE AND CARRIAGE CO. (Dept. P. 17), 11, VICTORIA STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.

CLEARANCE SALE LIST FREE

GREENHOUSES from £6 10 0

Motor-car Houses from £5 15 0

GARDEN TOOLS of every description See List.

BUNGALOWS from £32 15 0

PLANT FRAMES from 15/-

BATHO BROODERS from 18/-

RUSTIC HOUSES from £4 5 0

Incubators from 14/-

ROLLERS from £2 0 6

STORE HUTS from £3 12 6

HORTICULTURAL GLASS— Prices on application.

POULTRY HOUSES from 32/6

CANTEEN HUTS from £3 12 6

GARDEN LIGHTS from 4/-

Estimates free for every description of portable buildings.

T. BATH & CO., SAVOY ST., LTD., LONDON, W.C.2.

BOVRIL

The body-building power of Bovril has been proved by independent scientific investigation to be 10 to 20 times the amount taken.

PUTS BEEF INTO YOU

Cuticura Talcum Is The Ideal Powder

Its purity, smoothness and fragrance, combined with antiseptic and prophylactic properties which help to overcome disagreeable odors, make it an essential toilet requisite.

Soap 1s. Ointment 1s. 3d. and 2s. 6d. Talcum 2s. 3d. Trial sample each address: F. Newbery & Sons, Ltd., 27, Charter Ho., London, E.C.1.
Cuticura Shaving Stick 1s. 3d.

Free

A pleasant antiseptic shaving stick, giving a rich, rapid lather. Soothes as you shave—invaluable to skin sufferers.

Write for FREE Sample, half size.
Full Size Stick from leading chemists, 1/3

Sphagnol SHAVING SOAP

Peat Products (Sphagnol), Ltd., (Dept. J.B.), 18 19, Queenhithe, E; per 1cs-44 Thames Street, London, E.C.4.

Skin Advice for Windy Weather

Dry your hands with more care. Keep your lips soft. Best of all—use Snowfire Tablet. A rub of this on hands or lips soothes, softens and protects.

USE Snowfire TABLET

In 9d. Tablets. Family Size 7/6. Also in nickel containers, 6d. & 1/-
Snowfire Soap is the Complexion Soap.

15 DAYS TRIAL

Sent Packed FREE & Carriage PAID. £4 19s. 6d. Cash or 2/6 Weekly. Immediate delivery. Big Bargains in Second-hand Cycles. Accessories at popular prices. Write for Free Lists & Special Offer of Sample Cycle.

Mead CYCLE CO. Ltd. Dept. H. SPARKBROOK . . BIRMINGHAM.

THE IRRESISTIBLE GIRL.

A young girl should be bright and full of energy. The pink flush of health should be on her cheeks. She ought to be irresistible. Life is at its best. She should not be tired and wan, too languid to enjoy plain food, too shy and timid to attract anyone, often being ill for a day and having to be in bed, and looking limp and unhappy when out walking.

She should be full of vitality, hungry for her meals, glad to help with the housework, fond of an evening's recreation, walking with a spring in her heels, sunshine in her eyes, and the joy of living in her soul.

A girl who is thin and breathless, with no colour in her lips and cheeks, anæmic, dull-looking, will improve wonderfully under the influence of the new blood that Dr. Williams' pink pills can give her. She will gain vitality and attractiveness, grow healthy and jolly, get rid of all her languor and lassitude.

It is worth while to join the throng of rosy young womanhood, when all you need is Dr. Williams' pink pills. All chemists sell them, 3s. 0d. box—nothing else will do.

FREE.—No girl should miss reading the booklet "Nature's Warnings," sent free to all who write to C. H., Dept. 36, Fitzroy Square, London, W. 1.

DON'T BE GREY.
There appearing grey hairs to their tale. Often they put years that you have not reached on your appearance. Keep your hair the natural colour becoming to your looks.
NOTHING BUT VANIT
will do this for you effectually and without the slightest harm to the hair. It gives the exact shade required, is not removed even with a DAILY SHAMPOO, Sent by return post, securely packed. P.O. 1/3. — RESEARCH DRUGGISTS, LTD., 23, Lambert House, Ludgate Hill, E.C.4.

A Long Lent

Families that Fast the Year Round

FORTY days self-denial holds no terrors for the average person who observes Lent and abstains from rich foods on the days appointed.

Abstention from meat on Wednesdays and Fridays is but a slight privation to those who have the means of obtaining plenty of other nourishing food.

They should consider the wants of others to whom the whole year is one long Lent.

Many of our readers would be amazed if they knew how whole families are reared on a weekly income which is scarcely more than sufficient to provide one good meal.

As an instance we may cite the case of a man who appealed last week to us for assistance from the "Greatest of These—" Fund. It is a case where a man threw aside his work in order to join the Army when his country was in danger.

SO long as he was serving with the Forces adequate provision was made for his family, but the bells which rang out the glad message of peace sounded the death-knell of his wife, and upon his return to civilian life he found himself with three motherless little children.

His grateful country awarded him a pension of 10s. 8d. a week, and, owing to his inability to obtain employment, that has been his sole income for many months past. The guardians granted him relief in kind to the value of 4s.

It is not surprising in such circumstances that the rent has got into arrears and that the poor man found himself faced with the prospect of having to enter the workhouse and see his children taken away from him into scattered homes.

In his despair he wrote to us, and we have made provision for the family for a few weeks in the hope that we may be able to interest local employers in the case.

This is just a simple case, one of many which are assisted week by week through our "Greatest of These—" Fund.

WE earnestly beg our readers to make the forty days of Lent a real season of self-denial, during which they will send us contributions which will enable us to relieve the distress of those who are living on the verge of starvation.

"The Greatest of These—"

Registered under the War Charities Act as the JOHN BULL *War Sufferers' Fund. All cheques should be made payable to the Fund, and donations addressed to the Hon. Secretary, at 93, Long Acre, London, W.C.2. Every penny that is subscribed to "The Greatest of These—" Fund goes to give help to the needy. All the expenses of administration are borne by* JOHN BULL.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

T. L. Skinner, 4s.; M. McA., 6d.; Mrs. Alsop, parcel; Mrs. A. Longley, 6d.; Greatest of These, 3d.; E. Turgoose, 6d.; Anon., Bleadon, 3s.; Bulleteer, 6d.; S. Beavis, 6d.; F. M. K., 6d.; "Ucalite," 1s.; S. Moorhouse, 6d.; H. M. Townsend, 1s.; Two at the Shanty, 2s. 6d.; Saltash, 1s. 3d.; Bantishock, 2s.; Samolith, 2s. 6d.; G. L. M., 3s. 6d.; Scamp, 5s.; Fleet, 5s.; Bulleteer, 1s.; A. Labourer, 1s.; M. H., 2s. 6d.; Melton Mowbray, 2s.; W. C. J., 2s.; Ninth for Luck, 1s.; "Also Ran," 2s. 6d.; Jomanell, 2s.; C. F. Hounslow, £1; Mrs. Waller, 6d.; T. E. Bourre, 2s. 6d.; Mountcessing, parcel; Anon., parcel; A. Thom, 3s.; Jim's First Ninth, 2s.; Brother Best, 2s. 6d.; Hopeful, Derby, 2s.; F. Sprigett, 1s. 1½d.; M. C., 3s. 1d.; Every Little Helps (1) 2s. 6d.; W. Dyer, 2s. 6d.; H. Waddington, 1s.; O. G. Haddrell, 6d.; Camberley Wellwisher, 2s.; Mrs. Lawrence, 2s.; S. N. Adams, 5s.; F. E. Bowker, 1s.; "A Bit o' Silver," 6d.; Every Little Helps" (2), 2s. 6d.; W. Fox, 9d.; Wellwisher, 1s.; "Insurance Agent," 10s.; H. L. F., 5s. 6d.; Jessie, 1s.; "One-Eighth," 6d.; My Sixth Target, 6d.; W. Nelser, 10s.; C. Gabell, 5s.; 80 and 80, 2s.; A. Moore, 1s. 3d.; Oxford, 2s.; O. L. W., 6d.; E. Purkiss, 1s.; F. G. N. Roberts, 1s.; F. Blakeman, 10d.; H. E. M., 1s.; "1, 2, 3," 3s.; Insurance Agent, 10s.; J. N. Stephen, 2s. 5s. 3d.; A Thom, 1s.; A. Working Man, 2s. 6d.; 2s. Black Cat, 1s.; "Bunty and Chuckles," 2s.; Ninth, Neath, 2s.; Kimbolton, 15s.

Mr. Philip Inman acknowledges with thanks £5 from "Sympathiser," Ilford, for the girl mentioned in "A Hero of the Scrap-heap" in *John Bull* of February 13.

Many acknowledgments unavoidably held over.

ANY GRAMOPHONE AND RECORDS FROM 1/- WEEKLY

I offer the best and cheapest selection of high-grade Gramophones and as many Records as you like, ON APPROVAL CARRIAGE PAID. Small deposit secures immediate delivery. Write for my FREE LISTS.

Write for LISTS

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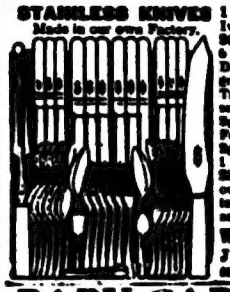

1 or Double Shear Steel Carvers, Ivorette handles, 6 Stainless Steel Table Knives & 6 Stainless Steel Dessert Knives, Ivory grained handles, 6 Table Spoons, 6 Dessert Spoons, 6 Tea Spoons, 6 Egg Spoons, 6 Table Forks 6 Dessert Forks, 1 Sugar Sps, 1pr Sugar Tongs, 1 Jam Spn, 1 Salt Spoon, all of Colombian Silver which wears white throughout. 39 pieces 59/- Delivered to approved orders for 5/- now, and 5/- monthly, if satisfied.

5/- NOW

WRITE FOR CATALOGUE. J. G. Graves Ltd. Sheffield

BABY CARS from 52/6

Direct from Factory, On Approval. CARRIAGE PAID. Retail Profits Saved. Cash or Easy Terms. Send now for Free Art Catalogue.

COVIVA CARRIAGE CO (Dept. 56) COVENTRY.

Don't Wear a Truss!

After 30 Years' Experience an Appliance has been invented for Men, Women and Children that Cures Rupture.

From a photograph of Mr. C. E. Brooks, inventor of the Appliance, who Cured himself, and whose experience has since benefited thousands. If ruptured, write to-day.

Sent on Trial.

If you have tried most everything else come to us. Where others fail is where we have our greatest success. Send attached coupon to-day and we will send you free our illustrated book on Rupture and its Cure, showing the Appliance, giving you prices and names of many people who have tried it and are extremely grateful. It is instant relief where all others fail. Remember we use no salves, no harness, no lies. We make it to your measure and send it to you on a strict guarantee of satisfaction or money refunded, and we have put our price so low that anybody, rich or poor, can buy it. We send it on trial to prove that what we say is true. You are the judge and once having seen our illustrated book and read it you will be as enthusiastic as the thousands of patients whose letters are on the file in our office. Fill in the Free Coupon below and post to-day.

FREE INFORMATION COUPON.

BROOKS APPLIANCE CO., Ltd. (387A), 80, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.2

Please send me by post in plain wrapper your Illustrated Book and full information about your appliance for the cure of Rupture.

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Please write plainly. .....

Varicose Ulcers

Soothed at once

and permanently Cured.

Germolene has been used with complete success in thousands of cases similar to that quoted below.

Mrs. Drew, of 56, Dane Park Road, Ramsgate, says that she had an ulcer beneath the bend of the knee which caused acute agony. Often she got no sleep at night and the pain persisted throughout the day. The ulcer grew until it was larger than a five shilling piece. After a year's suffering she was advised to try Germolene and did so. The first application soothed the pain, and as she continued the treatment the wound healed. "Now," she says, "my leg is as well as ever."

Mrs. Drew.

Use Germolene for

Eczema	Itching	Ringworm
Psoriasis	Ulcers	Pimples
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and all Cut, Bruised, Itching, or Ulcerated Surfaces.

GERMOLENE ASEPTIC SOAP

is a pleasant and refreshing toilet preparation, instilled with some of the active properties of Germolene. It softens, purifies, and preserves the skin, and is a protection from blemish and disease. Get a tablet to-day. Sold by all Chemists at 1/- per tablet, or in boxes of three tablets, 2/6

SOOTHES AT A TOUCH!

HOME PRICES; 1/3 and 3/- per tin.

Germolene

The Aseptic Skin Dressing

BULLETS' MONSTER FIRST

2nd. Prize £250

£1,500

3rd. Prize £100

4th. Prize £50

5th. Prize £25

100 PRIZES OF £1

200 Prizes of 5/- 12,000 'Target' Prizes 1,000 Prizes of 2/6

10 PRIZES OF £5

10 PRIZES OF £2 10

RESULT OF "BULLETS" No. 591.

FIRST PRIZE OF £300:

Mr. G. ASHDOWN, 1/3, Colsterworth Road, South Tottenham, N.
Example :—WHAT WE'RE MAKING
Bullet :—A "RACE" OF "NON-STARTERS."

SECOND PRIZE OF £100:

Mr. A. GARDER, 6, Park Place, Heavitree, Exeter.
Example :—SHOWING FIGHT
Bullet :—LABOUR PUTTING COATS ON.

THIRD PRIZE OF £50:

Mr. T. F. BENTON, 33, Edwinstowe Drive, Sherwood, Nottingham.
Example :—OLD MAID
Bullet :—ONE "SINGLE" TO "TERMINUS."

FOURTH PRIZE OF £30:

Mrs. E. K. WALKER, 222, London Road, Dover.
Example :—WHAT IS BETTING?
Bullet :—STAKING MONEY, MAKING STONY.

FIFTH PRIZE OF £20:

J. ELDRED, 98, Brockcroft Road, Chapel End, Walthamstow.
Example :—FORGETTING HER
Bullet :—TROUBLES, WEEPING AT CINEMA.

5 PRIZES OF £10 EACH

D. GRIERSON, Rose Cottage, Shirley, nr. Birmingham.
WHAT IS BETTING?—CASTING BREAD UPON *Turf*.

Mrs. HOBOBIN, 47, Marlborough Road, Nuneaton.
KEPT GOING—TOWN-CRIER DODGING HIS CREDITORS.

Mrs. E. LEGG, 73, East Holton Cottage, Lychett Minster, nr. Poole.
CUP OF SORROW—MUSTN'T BE "IMPERIAL MEASURE."

W. E. LUKE, 121, Beaufort Street, Chelsea, S.W.
LIBERAL PARTY—ANOTHER "PLANK"—FEWER "SEATS."

R. H. SEARLE, 9, The Square, Harborne Estate, Birmingham.
PARSON'S WIFE—"SERMONS" KEEP HIM AWAKE.
(Entered on "Target" Prize coupon.)

10 Prizes of £5 each:

R. BEDDOWS, Saltgrass, Hasilton, Glos.
WHAT IS BETTING?—KNOWING BEFOREHAND—BETTER, AFTERWARDS.

Miss H. BROWN, c/o 26, Charles Street, Inverness.
SHOWING FIGHT—DOCTORS PROCLAIM APPLES POISONOUS.

W. CLANCY, 62, Clark Street, Stepney, E.
WHAT IS BETTING?—HITCHING WAGGON TO *Starters*.

Mrs. MARY CURRIE, 93, Longford Road, Chorlton-cum-Hardy.
CUP OF SORROW—HOLDERS ARE THE *Losers*.
(Entered on "Target" Prize coupon.)

R. DAVIDSON, 99, English Street, Dumfries.
A TREAT—BRITAIN'S "CRUTCH," RUBBER SHOD.

P. JONES, Oak Inn, Tetbury, Glos.
WHAT THE COWARD SAID—"I DODGED BOTH ARMIES."

F. A. LASLETT, 21, Nesden Lane, Willesden, N.W.
WHY SHE WAS SILENT—NATURE HAVING *Her* SAY.

Mrs. A. MORGAN, 37, Shingrig Road, Nelson, Cardiff.
BREATHING AGAIN—LEAGUE—MUSSOLINI TAKING BREATHER.

C. WHITEHEAD, 19, Tattersall Road, Litherland, Liverpool.
WHAT THE COWARD SAID—"FOR TWO *Hairpins* I'D— —"

R. WOLFE, 20, Grove Street, Llanbradach, Cardiff.
A MISPRINT—THAT DECEIVED NOBODY—"MACLAVISH."
(Entered on "Target" Prize coupon.)

10 Prizes of £2 10s. each.

Mrs. A. E. COOMBS, 2, Moore Road, Jordanhill, Glasgow.
LIBERAL PARTY—WAS WATERTIGHT—IS WATER-LOGGED.

(*Continued on page 6*)

EXAMPLES FOR "BULLETS" No. 594.

BRITANNIA
OUR FUTURE
THANKS TO BALDWIN
BY ELECTRICITY
THE B.B.C.
MUSSOLINI
THE LAND
IF BRAINS WERE TAXED
FOR SAFETY
WISELY
SEEN AT PLAY
TEA FOR TWO
SONS OF THE SEA
WITH A GIRL
FOR MOTHER
VANISHING
OLD AND NEW
NO JOKE
IMAGINATION
WHEN BABY'S ASLEEP
HEARD AT THE RACES
LITTLE SOLLY
WHAT SHE TOLD HIM
A P.T.f
YOU AND I
IF I WERE WIFE
AMATEUR ACTOR
HOW TO KEEP SINGLE
WITH A SIGH
IN LIFE'S SCHOOL
DIRTY WORK
MAN IN THE STREET
WORRYING
SHOWED HE WAS RICH
INCOME TAX
WHAT THE BARBER SAID
HER HAT
RICH UNCLE
SAID TO THE SHOPKEEPER
WHAT IS COAL?

"BULLETS" RULES.

1. The First Prize will be awarded for what in the opinion of the judges in consultation with the Editor is the best Bullet received, and the other prizes in order of merit, the test being cleverness, aptness, and originality.

2. Only two attempts may be written on each coupon, and a postal order must be enclosed at the rate of 6d. for each coupon made use of. This must be made payable to JOHN BULL, and crossed _____ and Co. Competitors must write their names and addresses and the date of sending the order on the back of the postal order, the number of which must be duly noted on each coupon submitted. Coupons must not be mutilated.

3. The Editor undertakes that every Bullet received shall have careful consideration by a competent staff of qualified judges.

4. The Editor's decision on any matter of dispute arising in connection with this competition must be accepted as final and legally binding in all respects, and acceptance of this rule is an express condition of entry.

Employees of Odhams Press are not eligible to compete.

HOW TO MAKE "BULLETS."

Choose any of the Examples printed; then give any **Two, Three** or **Four Words**, having some bearing on the Example chosen, each of which can begin with any letter in the alphabet. These specimens will guide you:—

Example:—WHEN THINGS GO WRONG Bullet:—SING—DON'T "MAKE SONG."

Example:—NIGHT LIFE Bullet:—SUITS PUSSY—UPSETS PUSSY FOOT.

Example:—1926 Bullet:—GOVERNMENT COULDN'T POSTPONE *That*.

SEND POSTAL ORDER AT THE RATE OF 6d. FOR EACH COUPON USED.

Address Coupons to—"Bullets" No. 594, "John Bull," Long Acre, London, W.C.2. (Comp.)

PLEASE POST EARLY IF YOU CAN

You can help us by posting early, but all "Bullets" entered in time receive the same careful adjudication.

Example _____ Closing Date, Thursday, March 11.
Bullet _____
Example _____
Bullet _____
(594) P.O. No. _____
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page. With 1 Coupon, send P.O. for 6d.
Signed _____
Address _____

Example _____ Closing Date, Thursday, March 11.
Bullet _____
Example _____
Bullet _____
(594) P.O. No. _____
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page. With 2 Coupons, send P.O. for 1s.
Signed _____
Address _____

"Bullets" must consist of Two, Three or Four Words.

Example _____ Closing Date, Thursday, March 11.
Bullet _____
Example _____
Bullet _____
(594) P.O. No. _____
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page. With 3 Coupons, send P.O. for 1s. 6d.
Signed _____
Address _____

Example _____ Closing Date, Thursday, March 11.
Bullet _____
Example _____
Bullet _____
(594) P.O. No. _____
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page. With 4 Coupons, send P.O. for 2s.
Signed _____
Address _____

If you wish to send in further "Bullets" you can write them on plain paper.

* The original cheque for £1,000 awarded to the First Prize-winner in "Bullets" Competition No. 500 can now be seen in the window of Mr. F. W. NORTH, 47, High Street, Grantham.

why get wet?

SALE OF A £10,000 STOCK OF RAINCOATS, WATERPROOFS, ETC., FOR LADIES, GENTLEMEN, BOYS AND GIRLS.

An opportunity of purchasing guaranteed Weatherproof garments at considerably less than the usual price is afforded by our having cleared a manufacturer's stock of the undermentioned lines.
The prices shown are sufficient indication of the wonderful values being offered and readers of this paper are advised to lose no time in availing themselves of acquiring one of these bargains, the number of each line offered being limited.
Soon your heavy winter overcoat must be discarded, so what better than one of these lighter weight rain repelling garments that will keep you dry and comfortably clad in the approaching Spring days?

THE UNIVERSALLY RENOWNED "FOUR-IN-ONE" TRIPLE-PROOFED GABARDINE TRENCH COAT.

This coat is essentially the all-the-year-round coat—combining as it does warmth and weather resisting qualities. Triple proofed with oil-proofed lining throughout body and sleeves, it is impossible for a drop of rain to get through. Check lined, and with detachable wool lining, this coat repels biting winds. When ordering give your height, chest measure (taken over vest), and shade required. Obtainable in Fawn or Navy Blue, these coats are, without question, worth at least 70/-, but you can buy one to-day at the Sale Price of 29/6. Made in sizes 34 chest to 44 chest.
Owing to the limited number of Coats available, these can only be supplied by post or to customers calling at our New Bridge St. Store.

Including Detachable Wool Lining.

SALE PRICE

Postage 1/- extra **29/6**

MEN'S WOOL UNION GABARDINE TRENCH COATS.
The "Superdene" (Regd.).
These Coats could not be purchased under £3.3.0 in the ordinary way, being made of an excellent quality Wool Union Gabardine, Cravenette-proofed and lined with a smart check lining. Each garment bears the famous Cravenette proof label. In Fawn or Navy Blue shades. In double-breasted style as shown (with belt) or in the single-breasted Raglan style (without belt). All sizes from 34 to 46 inches chest measure. State height, give measurement round chest (over waistcoat) and shade required
SALE PRICE **39/6**
Postage 1/- extra.

BOYS' AND GIRLS' D.B. TRENCH COATS.
Rubber lined, 27 ins to 45 ins. long (to fit boys and girls from 5 to 17 years of age). In Fawn or Navy Blue. Guaranteed absolutely waterproof, every seam sewn and covered
SALE PRICE **12/9**
Postage 1/- extra.

GIRLS' LEATHERETTE COATS.
In Tan, Black, Navy, Brick, and Scarlet. Made in sizes 27 to 42 inches long State length and shade required.
SALE PRICE **12/9**
Postage 1/- extra.

MEN'S MACKINTOSH TRENCH COATS.
In Fawn or Navy Blue This is one of the best lines ever offered. The coats are full length, double breasted and with belt. Not only showerproof, but stormproof In sizes from 34 to 44 inches chest.
SALE PRICE **13/6**
Postage 1/- extra.

LADIES' LEATHERETTE COAT.
Has the smart appearance of real Kid Leather, butpossesses that supple and pliable character which makes it so comfortable in actual wear. Guaranteed absolutely impenetrable to the heaviest rains. All seams and pockets taped. In Tan, Black, Navy, Brick and Scarlet. Lengths 40, 42, 44, 46, 48, 50 inches. State colour and length required when ordering.
SALE PRICE **15/9**
Postage 1/- extra.

When ordering any of the above state shade and size required.

Any of these goods, with the exception of the 'Four-in-One' Coat, are obtainable at these Branches.

BRANCHES.

CITY. 35-37, New Bridge St., Ludgate Circus, E.C.4
70 & 72, City Road, E.C.
76, Aldersgate Street, E.C.
185 & 187, Old Street.
103, Finsbury Pavement.
WEST END. 110-111, Strand.
112 & 114, New Oxford St., W.C. 1.
SHEPHERD'S BUSH. 72, Uxbridge Road.
DEPTFORD. Chesham House, Broadway.
WOOLWICH. 43, Hare Street.
FOREST GATE. 39, Woodgrange Road.
WIMBLEDON. Prince of Wales Terrace, Hartfield Road (Opp. Rly. Stn.).
SUTTON (SURREY). 120, High Street.
KINGSTON-ON-THAMES. 27 & 27a, Market Place.
WESTCLIFF-ON-SEA. Hamlet Court Road.
SOUTHEND-ON-SEA. 99, High Street.
GRAYS (ESSEX). 71-72, High Street.
HOVE. 68, George Street, Hove.
GRAVESEND. 13 & 14, Milton Street.

LADIES' £3:3:0 ART. SILK WEATHERPROOFS

These are really superfine, beautifully tailored, dressy garments, and must be seen to be fully appreciated.
Made from lustrous rayon materials in shades of Rose, Mauve, Navy, Red, and Gold shot, shoulders lined with brocaded rayon silk; pearl buttons, all-round belt, and non-tarnishing buckle. Although light in weight, this Coat is guaranteed to resist the heaviest downpours as well as any Coat three times its weight. All sizes from 42 to 50 inches in length. State length and shade required.

SALE PRICE **29/6** POST 1/- EXTRA

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